

TIPS ON IMPROVING THE VALUE OF YOUR HOME

Preparing your home for sale can make a big difference in the time it takes to sell it. You can help prevent buyer objections by making necessary repairs and improvements.

Outdoors

- Spruce up garden and lawn; trim shrubs and replace dead plants.
- Clean or paint front door.
- Manicure front yard; keep driveway and yard(s) free of clutter.
- Use stain or sealants to brighten bleached decking and fences.

Exterior

- Make sure house numbers and mailbox are in good condition.
- Touch up with fresh paint as needed.
- Repair loose trim, drainpipes, and fencing.
- Clean window screens.

Interior

- Apply fresh paint as needed. Brighten colors with neutral paint.
- Clean draperies and carpets. Upgrade or remove worn curtains.
- Replace burnt-out bulbs.
- Clean the fireplace, remove smoke stains.
- Clean windows and sills.
- Clean and oil woodwork .
- Replace worn or outdated outlet and switch faceplates.
- Keep furniture, pictures and wall hangings to a minimum.

Kitchen

- Clean sinks, appliances, and counters
- Clean oven, range, and appliances.
- Replace broken, worn or outdated knobs and hinges on cabinets.
- Make sure cabinets and drawers operate smoothly.
- Reduce clutter.
- Add a bowl of fresh fruit to the counter.

Bathrooms

- Keep counters clear.
- Clean grout and caulking, replace if necessary.
- Repair leaking faucets.
- Strip old wallpaper – paint instead.
- Consider replacing old shower enclosures or curtains.

Garage

- Remove clutter.

Miscellaneous

- Repair severely cracked walkways and driveways.
- Check doors, windows and cabinets to make sure they don't stick.
- Clean furnace and water heater.