

Showings & Open House Checklist

Once your home is on the market, buyers and agents may request showings at almost any time—even outside your preferred schedule. Keeping your home in “showtime” condition can feel challenging, especially with kids or pets, but a little preparation goes a long way.

Prepping Your Home

- **Eliminate clutter:** Pack away collections, knick-knacks, and personal items. Consider renting a small storage unit for excess belongings.
 - **Sort belongings:** Use a “keep, donate, throw away” system to clear space quickly and efficiently.
 - **Secure valuables:** Move jewelry, important documents, and medications to a safe place.
 - **Pack away breakables:** Store fragile items like china, glassware, and figurines to avoid accidents.
 - **Be welcoming:** Open blinds, turn on lights, and create a bright, inviting atmosphere.
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Daily Habits to Stay Ready

- Wash dishes immediately after meals.
 - Keep countertops clear.
 - Make beds each morning.
 - Tidy pet toys and keep bedding clean and fresh.
 - Regularly clean the garage and attic to highlight storage space.
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The Five-Minute Quick Clean

When a showing pops up unexpectedly, get everyone involved:

- Grab a basket to quickly collect clutter.
- Check for trip hazards like toys on the floor.
- Put away bikes, sports gear, and outdoor toys.
- Contain pets—take them with you, use daycare, or keep them crated.
- Open curtains and turn on all lights for a bright, open feel.

Final Tip

Buyers feel most comfortable when they can view your home privately. Rest assured, they'll always be accompanied by their agent—so give them space to picture themselves living there.