



Sarah Jense

C. 801-623-7120

Email: SarahJense.Remax@gmail.com

Website: www.HomesBySarahJense.com

Home Preparation Checklist:



Taking the time to properly prepare your home for sale can have a big impact on how quickly it sells. There are home buyers anxiously awaiting the perfect home to appear on the MLS, so make sure your home makes a great first impression by following this thorough checklist.

Home Exterior:

1. House
 - Touch up trim, repair stucco, fascia, shutters, or any loose stone.
 - Inspect, clean and repair gutters and downspouts.
 - Repair roof shingles, tiles, or flashing.
 - Repair and clean windows and screens.
 - Make sure all doors and locks operate properly.
 - Ensure the doorbell works, the mailbox is in good repair, and house numbers are visible.
 - Make sure hose spigots and knobs are in working order and not leaking.
2. Front Porch
 - Front door should be in perfect condition. Clean, paint, stain or replace if needed.
 - Porch area should be clean. Add a new door mat and potted plants or other attractive décor.

Light fixtures should be clean and working with high wattage lightbulbs.

3. Yard

Inspect sprinkler system and fix any leaks or broken sprinkler heads.

Fertilize, repair, edge and trim the lawn regularly throughout the sales process.

Remove weeds, dead leaves, trim bushes and tree branches,

Remove any weeds growing in cracked concrete or drainage areas around the home.

Inspect lawn borders or consider installing some for a cleaner look.

Mulch and rock areas should be evenly spread.

4. Additional Structures: Patio, Deck, Porch, Fence, Shed, and Driveway.

Remove clutter from decks, porches, and patios.

Make sure the fence is in good repair and gates are in working order. Paint or stain if needed.

Inspect deck for stability, pressure wash, and paint or stain if needed.

Clean and make sure the shed is in good repair. Paint if needed.

Stage the deck as you would the interior of the home.

Pressure wash driveway. Repair any cracks or excessive settling in driveway or sidewalks.

Children's play structures or swimming pools should be in excellent condition.

Home Interior:

1. General Interior

Deep clean your entire home. Wipe walls and sweep ceilings. Dust baseboards.

Look closely to determine what updates may be necessary.

Wash windows and coverings. Make sure windows open and close with ease and tracks are clean.

Professionally clean carpets. Consider replacing carpet if needed.

Clean and dust ceiling fans. Make sure they are properly balanced.

Inspect wood floors. Consider repairing cracks and resurfacing real wood floors.

Inspect tile floors. Clean and repair grout. Remove scuff marks.

Inspect, repair, paint or stain wood trim in home around floors, doors and crown molding.

Fix cracks or holes in walls. Identify rooms that need to be repainted in neutral tones.

Remove any unpleasant odors such as pet stains, litter boxes, smoke or mildew.

All lightbulbs should be working and at the highest approved wattage. Add lamps to brighten.

Clean furnace vents and filters.

Inspect smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Replace low batteries.

Tighten loose door knobs and fix any squeaks or creaks.

Remove any outdated wallpaper. Resurface and paint the area.

All light switch plates should be clean and working properly.

Depersonalize by removing family photos, knick-knacks, and memorabilia. Pack up collections and store toys.

Remove any décor that may be potentially offensive.

Remove unnecessary furniture and make the home feel as spacious as possible

Add live plants and flowers to your home.

Use a professional to stage your home.

2. Kitchens

Clean every surface including countertops, backsplash, door fronts, and inside cabinets and drawers.

Remove unnecessary appliances from counter tops.

Ensure all appliances are in working order and are wiped down.

- Clean refrigerator and freezer
 - Clean oven
 - Clean pantry and organize. Repaint shelving if needed.
 - Fix caulking around sink if needed.
 - Inspect sink, disposal, and dishwasher for leaks and repair if necessary.
 - Consider installing new knobs and pulls on drawers and cupboards.
 - Consider if new countertops may increase the value and desirability of your home.
3. Bedrooms
- Remove all clutter, personal items, excess books, magazines, or toys.
 - Beds should be made with attractive bedding.
 - Ensure it smells fresh and clean.
 - Windows should be clean, coverings in good repair, and the view outside should be attended to.
4. Bathrooms
- Thoroughly clean every surface. Mirrors should sparkle.
 - Make sure there is no mold in the shower area. Inspect and repair any grout or caulking issues.
 - Repair any leaks.
 - Remove all personal items from view.
 - Clean and organize all drawers, cupboards and linen closets.
 - Tighten loose toilet paper holders, hooks, or towel racks.
 - Clean, caulk and ensure the toilet is sparkling clean.
 - Have clean towels placed for showings.
 - Hide prescription medications.
5. Closets
- Clean out old clothing, shoes, and accessories. Make sure there is extra space with empty hangers.
 - Neatly organize what must be left inside using attractive containers. Leave open space on shelves.
 - Thoroughly dust and make it smell fresh.
6. Garage
- Thoroughly clean and organize garage. Get rid of anything you don't wish to take with you.
 - Pressure wash floors.
 - Consider repainting white to brighten. Garage walls often get very dirty. Remove all cobwebs.
 - Remove oil stains from floors. Consider resurfacing or painting floor gray.
 - Make sure garage door and opener are in good condition and working order.
 - Fix any water problems.
7. Basement, Attic or Storage Areas
- Clean and organize. Make it look as inviting as possible.
 - Clean out any basement window wells.
 - Make as light and bright as possible.
 - Make sure no mice or other critters are living there.
 - Fix any water issues.



Sarah Jense

C. 801-623-7120

Email: SarahJense.Remax@gmail.com

Website: www.HomesBySarahJense.com