48 Ways to Speed a House Sale



EVALUATE

1. Have a Realtor®, interior decorator or professional organizer walk through your home to evaluate what needs to be updated, repaired or removed

- 2. Patch damaged walls
- 3. Replace cracked floor tiles
- 4. Oil squeaky doors
- 5. Fix sticky windows
- 6. Fix leaky faucets and toilets
- 7. Re-caulk tubs and sinks
- 8. Replace broken windows and screens

BRIGHTEN

- 17. Take down heavy window treatments that block light
- **18.** Wash all windows
- 19. Increase the wattage of light bulbs
- 20. Replace dark lamp shades

PAINT

- 13. Paint the interior in neutral colors
- 14. Paint exterior doors and window trim
- 15. Paint shutters
- 16. Repaint exterior, if needed

UPDATE

- **9.** Replace cabinet knobs and pulls
- **10.** Update lighting fixtures, if needed
- 11. Update blinds, if needed
- 12. Replace faucets and shower heads, if needed

DEPERSONALIZE

21. Remove family photos

22. Store knickknacks

DE-CLUTTER

- 23. Thin out the books on your shelves
- 24. Empty kitchen counters
- 25. Place out-of-season clothing in storage
- **26.** Rent a storage unit to store unneeded items

ORGANIZE

- 27. Organize pantry
- 28. Organize closets
- **29.** Organize basement
- 30. Organize garage and shed

The Value of Professional Staging

Is it worth the cost to hire a professional to stage the home you want to sell? These results from a study by the Real Estate Staging Association says yes.

PRICE	# OF HOMES	STAGED	NOT STAGED	DAYS ON MARKET
\$1 million \$1 million	69 13	Х	Х	38 97
\$500K-\$999K \$500K-\$999K	139 24	Х	X	21 140
\$300K-\$499K \$300K-\$499K	170 25	Х	χ	25 125
\$100K-\$299K \$100K-\$299K	137 20	Χ	Х	19 127

STAGE INSIDE

- 40. Reduce the amount of furniture in each room
- 41. Organize furniture to create seating areas and give each part of the home a purpose
- 42. Place cut flowers around home during showings

CLEAN

- 31. Clean all interior surfaces
- 32. Wash windows and doors
- **33.** Air out and clean in cabinets and under sinks
- **34.** Power wash exterior of house and sidewalks
- 35. Clean outdoor furniture
- **36.** Clean porch lights of cobwebs and debris



HIDE SIGNS OF PETS

- 37. Remove pet smells
- 38. Hide pet food and bowls
- 39. Take pets for a walk during showings or send them to day care during open houses

PRUNE AND LANDSCAPE

- **43**. Remove dead plants
- 44. Prune or replace overgrown shrubs.
- 45. Fill open spots with seasonal flowers
- 46. Add fresh mulch to beds



STAGE OUTSIDE

- 47. Make sure front porch/ entryway is clean and inviting
- 48. Use outdoor furniture to create inviting spaces

