

# 14 Days to "List Ready" Condition

Day 1 and 2: Kitchen

Remember Kitchens and Baths sell homes. Spend as much time as you need getting this room ready to show!

1) De-clutter every drawer, cabinet, and countertop: If you need it but don't use but 1 or 2 x per year, go ahead a box it up and get it out of the house.

2) Dust or wash all decorations and accessories - no dust bunnies!

3) Windows, sills and hardware – toothbrush and Windex works best on sills and hardware. Even if hidden by a blind or curtain –Buyers WILL look at your windows and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

4) Shine your sink

5) Clean oven, inside and out and burners. Consider purchasing new burner bowls

6) Wipe down cabinetry thoroughly. Wood stain cabinets respond well to Murphy's oil soap, white cabinets, use Mr. Clean Magic Erasers

7) Dust Ceiling fan and all light fixtures

8) Clean air vents and apply fresh spray paint if they are not already perfect

9) VERY IMPORTANT: clean baseboards thoroughly: toothbrush, wet wash cloth and Windex or Mr. Clean Magic Erasers works well here. Buyers WILL look at your baseboards and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

10) Clean flooring. Bleach grout if you have tile, repair tears in linoleum if possible, wax, strip, etc

11) Clean out and straighten pantry: Buyers WILL look here and ladies will need to be as impressed as possible

12) Put away all countertop appliances that you do not use EVERY day. Those left out, clean thoroughly. Try to eliminate everything from your countertops except for 2 decorative items or displays.

13) Survey the room, anything left untouched so far – tackle it too!

14) Pat yourself on the back!

## Days 3 and 4: Living room / Family room

1) Dust Light Fixtures and fans

2) Dust and de-clutter mantle

3) In Spring/Summer clean out fireplace – ashes can lead to an odor

4) Dust all accessories and decorations

5) De-clutter all surfaces, purge magazines, and other clutter catchers

6) Windows, sills and hardware – toothbrush and Windex works best on sills and hardware. Even if hidden by a blind or curtain –Buyers WILL look at your windows and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

7) Clean blinds and curtains of all dust and cobwebs

8) Vacuum under furniture

9) Clean air vents and apply fresh spray paint if they are not already perfect

10) VERY IMPORTANT: clean baseboards thoroughly: toothbrush, wet wash cloth and Windex or Mr. Clean

Magic Erasers works well here. Buyers WILL look at your baseboards and it is a sign of how clean your house is. 11) Flooring: remove spots on carpet, wax wood floors, etc

12) Survey the room, anything left untouched so far – tackle it too!

13) Pat yourself on the back!

# Days 5 and 6: Office/ other room

1) Dust Light Fixtures and fans

2) Dust and de-clutter surfaces such as desks, bookshelves, table tops

3) Dust all accessories and decoration

4) Windows, sills and hardware – toothbrush and Windex works best on sills and hardware. Even if hidden by a blind or curtain –Buyers WILL look at your windows and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

5) Clean blinds and curtains of all dust and cobwebs

6) Vacuum under furniture

7) Clean air vents and apply fresh spray paint if they are not already perfect

8) VERY IMPORTANT: clean baseboards thoroughly: toothbrush, wet wash cloth and Windex or Mr. Clean Magic Erasers works well here. Buyers WILL look at your baseboards and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

9) Combine computer wires with twist tie

10) Flooring: remove spots on carpet, wax wood floors, etc

11) Secure any important documents in a locked drawer: Some Buyers WILL look in desk drawers

12) Survey the room, anything left untouched so far – tackle it too!

13) Pat yourself on the back!

## Days 7, 8 & 9: All Bedrooms

1) Closets clean and organized: sort through clothing and shoes and take the opportunity to donate or share if needed. Closets should not look like you are out of room – store things if necessary

2) Dust Light Fixtures and fans

3) Dust and de-clutter surfaces such as desks, bookshelves, nightstands

4) Dust all accessories and decorations

5) Windows, sills and hardware – toothbrush and Windex works best on sills and hardware. Even if hidden by a blind or curtain –Buyers WILL look at your windows and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

6) Clean blinds and curtains of all dust and cobwebs

7) Clean flooring – spots of carpet, wax floor, etc...

8) Vacuum under and behind furniture

9) When showing a house to a Buyer, there is nothing worse than entering a stale/stuffy and dirty teenager's room, usually a boys room. You know what I mean, that smell of dirty sheets and tennis shoes. Be sure to remedy this at all costs. Wash bedding, shampoo carpets and use a Fabric Refresher spray.

10) Clean air vents and apply fresh spray paint if they are not already perfect

11) VERY IMPORTANT: clean baseboards thoroughly: toothbrush, wet wash cloth and Windex works well here. Buyers WILL look at your baseboards and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

12) Survey the room, anything left untouched so far – tackle it too!

13) Pat yourself on the back!

## Day 10: Laundry Room/Mud Room

1) Clean out and de-clutter shelving or cabinetry: This room should feel like it is adequate for your house work and storage.

2) Clean outside of Washer and Dryer

3) Clean behind Washer and Dryer

4) Clean air vents and apply fresh spray paint if they are not already perfect

5) VERY IMPORTANT: clean baseboards thoroughly: toothbrush, wet wash cloth and Windex or Mr. Clean Magic Erasers works well here. Buyers WILL look at your baseboards and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

6) Consider purchasing a new rug

7) Dust Light Fixtures and fans

8) Windows, sills and hardware – toothbrush and Windex works best on sills and hardware. Even if hidden by a blind or curtain –Buyers WILL look at your windows and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

9) Clean blinds and curtains of all dust and cobwebs

10) Clean flooring – spots of carpet, wax floor, etc...

11) Survey the room, anything left untouched so far – tackle it too!

12) Pat yourself on the back!

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#### Days 11, 12 &13: All Bathrooms

Kitchens and Baths sell homes – use some extra elbow grease to make this room sparkling at all times!

1) Clean air vents and apply fresh spray paint if they are not already perfect

2) Remove ALL TOILETRIES from bathroom countertop, store them all in drawers, only a few decorative items should remain

3) Shine mirror

4) Replace hand towels with decorative ones

5) Deep clean toilets inside and out with bleach to remove all rings: consider purchasing an inexpensive new toilet seat and lid

6) Deep clean shower and baths: grout, mildew, water stains, rust

7) VERY IMPORTANT: clean baseboards thoroughly: toothbrush, wet wash cloth and Windex or Mr. Clean Magic Erasers works well here. Buyers WILL look at your baseboards and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

8) Wash rugs and shower curtain (especially the liner): Consider purchasing a new liner

9) Wipe down cabinetry thoroughly. Wood stain cabinets respond well to Murphy's oil soap, white cabinets, use Mr. Clean Magic Erasers:

10) Clean door hardware thoroughly with a toothbrush

11) Dust light fixtures and fans

12) Windows, sills and hardware – toothbrush and Windex works best on sills and hardware. Even if hidden by a blind or curtain –Buyers WILL look at your windows and it is a sign of how clean your house is.

13) Clean blinds and curtains of all dust and cobwebs

14) Clean flooring - bleach grout, strip/wax floor, repair linoleum, etc...

15) Survey the room, anything left untouched so far - tackle it too!

16) Pat yourself on the back!

#### Day 14: Exterior / Garage

#### **Exterior Clean**

1) Clean front door thoroughly – this is your Buyers first contact with your home. Update your wreath, change out seasonal decorations, and clean all cobwebs from porch. Consider purchasing a new entry mat/rug.

2) Power wash exterior eves and overhangs or clean with a broom

3) Trim bushes, weed flower beds: Consider purchasing new mulch

4) Mow, edge yard and fence lines

5) Clean out Gutters if needed: Buyers WILL notice if they approach your house on a rainy day

6) Clean all exterior windows with Windex and swipe away bugs and cobwebs with a broom.

7) Repair or replace any broken screens or doors

8) How does your mailbox look? Plant flowers around it for welcoming touch and be sure to have house numbers visible from the street.

9) Store away any unused gardening tools, empty pots, de-clutter garage, etc...

10) Call Emily Smith to list your house!