

Quick Fixes When Selling a Home

These are among things sellers can do to make their homes more appealing:

- Rearrange furniture. Remove some of it to make the room look larger.
- Store any collections (like dolls, ceramics, model trains) and remove family photos from walls and tables. They are too personal and may hinder the ability of potential buyers to identify with your property.
- Clean upholstered furniture, draperies and carpets to get rid of odors.
- Before showings, place as many fresh flowers as you can gather in various rooms of the house.
- Get rid of plastic plants and flowers.
- Clear countertops and line up books neatly in bookshelves. Get rid of old magazines and newspapers.
- Clean out closets so they look spacious rather than jammed.
- Wash windows and glass doors.
- Replace sun-faded curtains or window shades.
- Make sure light fixtures work properly both inside and outside your home.
- Power-wash the outside of your home if the paint can take it without flaking.
- Plant flowers in beds around your home or mass them in pots that you can take with you when you move. Trim trees and shrubs.
- Repair the driveway and get rid of oil stains.
- Clean out the gutters.
- Paint the front door, shutters, gates and picket fences.
- Paint your house number on the curb in straight black numerals.
- Make sure your mailbox is in good condition and replace cute, personal ones.
- Buy new mats for exterior doors and purchase or clean trashcans for alley or garage.
- If you don't have one, build a garage storage shelf for tools and garden supplies. Hang rakes and tools neatly on pegs against the garage wall. Be sure to sweep the concrete free of debris.