

Open House Checklist

Sponsored by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Staging an open house is a rite of passage for every home seller. To give you some great open house tips, we have partnered with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® to prepare this Open House Checklist.

Before Your Open House		What You'll Need
Tour your house		
	Examine the exterior.	
	Walk through the interior.	
	Smell for odors.	
De-clutter every room		
	Remove excess and oversized furniture.	Materials: Storage Containers
	Rearrange remaining furniture to visually expand certain rooms.	
	Remove books, movies, and knickknacks.	
	Throw out stacks of newspapers or magazines.	
	Pack away most small decorative items and out-of-season clothing.	
	Clean out and organize closets, garage, cabinets and pantry.	
De-personalize your home		
	Remove family photographs, personal mementos, refrigerator magnets and personal care items.	
Let in more light		
	Wash your windows and screens.	Tools: Scrub Brush, Wire Brush/Scrapper Materials: Indoor Lighting
	Put higher wattage incandescent bulbs in all light sockets to make rooms seem brighter.	
	Turn on all lights before open house.	
	Pull open all curtains before open house.	
Get rid of odors		
	Steam clean your carpeting and drapes.	Tools: Steam Cleaner
	Change bed linens and towels.	
	Keep pets outside as much as possible.	
	Do not smoke inside.	
	Sift kitty litter daily.	
	Keep windows open as much as possible.	



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Guidance for one of your most exciting projects

Keep everything extra clean	
Clean smudges from light switches.	Tools: Squeegee or Grout Sponge, Waterproof Gloves Materials: Cleaning Agent, Floor Polish, Rags, Trash Bags, Window Cleaner
Dust baseboards.	
Clean film on shower doors and mildew on bathroom tile grout.	
Clean and organize kitchen cabinets.	
Mop, and wax or polish floors.	
Clear countertops.	
Remove dryer lint residue from laundry room appliances.	