

Pre-Listing Cleaning Checklist



Property cleanliness is one of the most important factors in making a positive impression on buyers. Use this checklist to prepare your property for showings and maximize its appeal.

Entry Way

✓ WALLS

- Clean the walls, baseboards, and trim thoroughly.
- Eliminate dirt and fingerprints around light switches and frequently touched surfaces.
- Repair scuffs, nail holes, and any minor wall imperfections.

✓ WINDOWS

- Clean windows and window sills inside and out.
- Open blinds and drapes to maximize natural light.

✓ DECLUTTER

- Remove excess belongings to make your home feel more spacious, clean, and inviting. You want potential buyers to easily visualize themselves living there.
- Clear toys, pet beds, litter boxes, and other unnecessary items from visible areas.

✓ FIXTURES

- Dust light fixtures, ceiling fans, shelves, and other visible surfaces.
- Polish wood and metal furnishings.
- Replace burnt-out light bulbs and ensure rooms are well lit.

✓ FLOORS

- Vacuum and shampoo rugs and carpets as needed.
- Remove stains, odors, and accumulated dust.

✓ DIRT COLLECTORS

- Clean trash cans inside and out.
- Dust and wipe air vents and return grilles.

Additional Areas to Prepare:

✓ HOME OFFICE

- Clean computers, monitors, desks, and shelving.
- Organize paperwork, files, and office supplies.
- Remove unnecessary items to maximize perceived workspace.

✓ OUTDOOR SPACES

- Clean the front door and entryway.
- Sweep patios, porches, walkways, and driveways.
- Wipe down outdoor furniture.
- Pick up pet waste and remove pet-related items.
- Weed flower beds, trim overgrown landscaping, and mow the lawn.
- Remove dead plants, leaves, and yard debris.
- Store hoses, tools, and outdoor equipment neatly out of sight.
- Ensure exterior lighting is clean and operational.
- Pressure wash exterior surfaces if needed.
- Clean visible cobwebs from eaves, porches, and entry areas.

Kitchen

✓ SINK & DRAIN

- Clean and polish sink and drain areas.

✓ STOVE & COUNTERTOPS

- Scrub stovetop and burners.
- Keep countertops clear of unnecessary items.
- Clean dishwashers and dish racks.

✓ FIXTURES

- Wipe appliances and cabinet fronts clean.
- Organize cabinets and refrigerator to showcase storage capacity.

✓ ODOR CONTROL

- Eliminate lingering cooking, pet, smoke, or trash odors.
- Empty trash regularly and clean disposal areas.

Bathroom

✓ SHOWER

- Remove mold, mildew, and stains from tile, floors, tubs, and sinks.
- Re-grout or reseal tile as needed.
- Clean shower doors and glass surfaces.

✓ TOILET, MIRRORS & GLASS

- Sanitize and deodorize.
- Replace the seat if worn or damaged.
- Polish mirrors and glass surfaces until streak-free.

✓ STORAGE SPACES

- Remove personal care items from counters and shelves.
- Display clean, neatly folded towels.
- Empty all wastebaskets.

✓ BEDROOMS

- Make beds neatly with fresh, clean bedding.
- Store laundry, personal items, and excess décor out of sight.
- Dust furniture, ceiling fans, and bedside surfaces.
- Keep nightstands and dressers minimally staged to create a calm, spacious feel.
- Eliminate pet, smoke, or other lingering odors.

✓ CLOSETS

- Remove excess items from floors and shelves.
- Organize clothing and belongings neatly to highlight storage space.
- Aim to leave 20-30% of closet space open to showcase capacity.