

HOW TO PREP YOUR HOME FOR SALE



BATHROOM

Clean and fresh. Tidy the cupboards as people will look to check for space and functionality. Toothbrushes in the cupboard. Fresh matching towels and bath mats. Make sure all light bulbs (and heat lamps) are working and give good clean light. Consider a quick fresh coat of paint in here if the budget can stretch. Keep it tonal to make the space appear bigger.

KITCHEN

Clean and fresh. Clean out cupboard pantry. People will open these to check for space. Keep appliances off the benches. Remove anything from the outside of the fridge. Clean the stainless steel and make your surfaces sparkle. People need to imagine feeding their family in the area. Make it easy for them.

LIVING AREAS

Remove any personal items and pack or hide away any family photos. People want to imagine their family in the space, not yours. Get the sofa cleaned, and freshen or modernise the space if needed, with cushions, rugs. Just a few things to make it look inviting. Make sure the room is bright.

ENTRY AND HALLWAY

This area is the first impression of your home. Make it count. Make sure it's clean, light and inviting, and free of clutter.

GARAGE

Ensure this space is tidy and organised. Get rid of any clutter, boxes, or anything that sits on the ground. Remove them altogether or get shelving and hanging storage. Hang skis and surfboards from the ceiling, to make the space functional. It's a good idea to have a car parked in the garage for open houses, so buyers can see that their car will fit in the garage.

OUTSIDE

This is important. Before buyers see inside, they see outside. If outside doesn't look inviting from the street, they might decide to drive onto the next home. It's called curb appeal, or street appeal. Landscape and tidy as much as possible. Make this first impression count.

TIPS THAT REALLY WORK

Painting is one of the best returns on investment you can make. If the budget can stretch, do it.

Tick everything on the 'to do list'. Hire a hubby or do it yourself, but make sure everything works.

Declutter spaces. Remove excess furniture and personal items to create a 'blank canvas' for the buyer.