

THE INFORMED Home Buyer/Seller™

Helpful Advice for Making the Right Move

Issue 5

Little Touch ups that Make a **Big Difference**

You are probably already aware of the major things you need to do around your home to get it ready for sale. These include getting rid of clutter, doing minor repairs, and making everything clean and tidy so every room is as much of a showcase as possible.

But there are a myriad of little touch ups you can do that you may not have thought of before... touch ups that can make a big difference in how attractive your home looks to potential buyers.

Here are just a few:

- Paint or replace the mailbox.
- Add a couple of flowering plants to key areas, such as the dining room, living room, and just outside the front door.
- Patch up any minor cracks in the driveway and walkways. (If there is a major crack, consider getting it repaired by a professional.)
- Put out the welcome mat. Literally! And if it's not clean and completely free of stains, replace it.
- If you have a stainless steel kitchen sink, clean it using a special stainless steel cleaner and brightener. The effect will be dramatic; the sink will look like new.
- Use a special spot cleaner to lift any stains from carpeted areas.
- Replace plain or out-of-style light fixtures in the main areas of your home, such as the hallway and living room. Without spending a fortune, you can make a big difference in how these areas look.
- If your kitchen cabinetry is old, consider replacing the hardware on the doors and drawers. That, along with some touch-up paint or varnish on worn areas, can make your older kitchen look young again.

The great thing about these ideas is that they don't cost much to implement, and you can probably do most of them in less than a day.

Want more tips on making your home appealing to buyers? Call today.

Plan Your Move well in advance

One of the most common mistakes made by home buyers and sellers is not arranging for moving day well in advance. Even if you've just put your property on the market, or are only in the beginning stages of shopping for a new home, you should start planning for moving day now. If you don't, you might find yourself scrambling to make arrangements, which can be – to put it mildly – stressful.

Start now by researching moving companies and making a short list. You should also find economical sources of boxes, bubble wrap and other packaging materials you may need.

If you plan to do some or all of the move yourself, don't assume that uncle Ned is going to help you. Get rock solid commitments from any family or friends who have volunteered to be there on moving day.

Think, Act... Live!

"The man who complains about the way the ball bounces is likely the one who dropped it."

Lou Holtz, famous NCAA coach

"All blame is a waste of time. No matter how much fault you find with another, and regardless of how much you blame him, it will not change you."

Dr. Wayne Dyer

"The indispensable first step in getting the things you want out of life is this: decide what you want."

Ben Stein