

## Moving Day:

### Home Prep Tips for a Stress-Free Experience

When it comes to moving day, a little prep can save a whole lot of hassle. If you're gearing up for the big day, here are some tips to ensure everything goes off without a hitch.

- **Declutter and Donate:** Before packing, go through each room and decide what can be donated or sold. Fewer items mean fewer boxes and less to unpack in your new space.
- **Create an Inventory:** It sounds formal, but having a list of items in each box can be a lifesaver. It helps you keep track of your belongings. And, once you're in your new place, you'll know exactly where to find that ever-elusive TV remote.
- **Pack a First-Day Box:** Imagine searching for basic essentials after a tiring day of moving. Not fun, right? So, pack a box with first-day necessities — think toiletries, a change of clothes, vital documents, and some snacks.
- **Label Smartly:** It's not just about slapping a 'kitchen' or 'bedroom' label on a box. Add details. For instance, label as "Kitchen: Pots and Pans" or "Master Bedroom: Bedding." It helps movers place boxes in the right spot and you find things quickly.



A stress-free moving day largely hinges on thoughtful preparation. By being proactive and organized, you can transition to your new home with ease.



## Keeping Insects at Bay: Tips when Listing your Home for Sale

The sight of an insect in your home can be a big turn-off for potential buyers. Here are some tips for keeping these unwanted guests outside.

- **Seal the Entrances:** Thoroughly inspect your home for gaps and cracks. Windows and doors can be prime entry points for insects. Ensure all weatherstripping is functional and repair or replace where necessary.
- **Clean, Clean, Clean:** Insects are often attracted to leftover food and crumbs. Make sure your kitchen and dining areas are spotless. Regularly take out the trash and ensure your bins have tight-fitting lids.
- **Natural Repellents:** Did you know that certain plants can act as insect repellents? Consider incorporating plants like lavender, mint, or basil into your decor. Not only do they smell fantastic, but they can also deter unwanted critters.
- **Seek Professional Help:** If you're facing a more significant infestation, it might be time to bring in the professionals. Pest control experts can provide targeted solutions to ensure insects are gone for good.

It goes without saying, a bug-free home is more appealing to potential buyers. With a few preventive measures and a proactive approach, you can ensure that buyers are focused on your property's charms, not swatting away intruders!

## Should You Sell this Year? Key Factors to Consider

Deciding to sell your home is as much an emotional decision as it is a financial one. If you're toying with the idea, you're probably wondering, "Should I sell this year?" Let's dive into some key factors that might help you answer that question.

The first is market opportunities. This year may have the kind of housing market that makes it advantageous for you to move. If you've been considering moving for some time, that may be a motivating factor. Find out what the state of the market is and what the opportunities are. The timing could be right.

Another factor is financial. Are you in a good position to sell your property and get into your next dream home? Consider how much you'll likely get when you sell (minus outstanding mortgage principal).

And, of course, you should look to the future. Where do you see yourself in the next 5-10 years? If you're planning a career move or expecting a change in your family situation, it might be a good idea to consider how your current home fits into those plans. Selling might be the right decision if your current residence won't suit your anticipated needs.

Finally, do you dream of a new home? Is there a neighbourhood you'd love to live in? Do you feel a sense that "It's time" to move on? Don't discount those feelings. When it comes to lifestyle, happiness, fulfillment, etc., a home plays a big role. It's worth asking yourself, "If not now, when?"



Whether you choose to sell or stay put, make sure it's a choice that aligns with both your heart and your head.