

Home Buyer's Checklist



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Print a few copies of this checklist and take them with you when you view potential new homes. The checklist makes it easier to remember little details when you sit down to compare the various properties you've seen.

Address	
Age of Home	
Date Listed	
Asking Price	
Occupancy Date	

PLUMBING		
Pipes	COPPER	GALVANIZED
Sanitary system	SEWER	SEPTIC TANK
Water source	WELL	MUNICIPAL
Central humidifier	YES	NO AGE
ELECTRICAL		
Wiring	KNOB/TUBE	COPPER

Hint: Older homes may not have enough power outlets to accommodate the modern family's need for microwaves, computers, printers, televisions, game machines and other electrical devices.

Section Two: Additional Features		
Fireplace	YES	NO
Pool	YES	NO

Section Three: What's included?		
APPLIANCES		
Dishwasher	YES	NO
Washer	YES	NO
Dryer	YES	NO
Refrigerator	YES	NO
Stove	YES	NO
WINDOWS		
Window coverings (curtains, sheers, vertical blinds, etc.)	YES	NO
Electrical fixtures (chandeliers, sconces, outdoor lighting, etc.)	YES	NO
OTHER		

Section One: The Structure			
Type of home (condominium/town home/semi-detached/detached/row house/multi-unit residential)			
Type of construction (wood, brick veneer, block)			
Approximate square footage			
Number of stories			
Number of bedrooms			
Number of baths			
Number of closets			
Garage?	YES	NO	#
Parking?	YES	NO	#
MAJOR SYSTEMS			
HEATING			
Furnace type	OIL	GAS	AGE
Radiators	YES		NO
COOLING			
Window air conditioning	YES	NO	AGE
Central air	YES	NO	AGE

Section Four: Location			
Near schools?	YES	NO	DISTANCE
Near work?	YES	NO	DISTANCE
Access to public transportation?	YES	NO	DISTANCE
Near shopping centres?	YES	NO	DISTANCE
Near parks?	YES	NO	DISTANCE
Near expressway?	YES	NO	DISTANCE
Traffic volume on street?	LOW	MED	HIGH
Near airport/train tracks?	YES		NO

Section Five: Estimated costs	
Property tax	
Imminent repairs	
Security system upgrade or installation	
Changing locks	
Installing/upgrading fences	
Parking permit(s)	

Section Six: General condition of property					
Rate on a scale of 1 to 5. 1 = poor condition/imminent work needed. 5 = perfect condition/exactly what you want.					
Doors and windows (check for cracks, signs of leakage)	1	2	3	4	5
Floors (consider type of floor and check for damage)	1	2	3	4	5
Exterior walls (type and condition)	1	2	3	4	5
Roof (ask about the age and look for bare spots on shingles)	1	2	3	4	5
Lawn and garden (external water and electrical outlets)	1	2	3	4	5
Garage (condition, electricity for garage door opener)	1	2	3	4	5