

Showtime! Open House Checklist - Don't Leave Anything Out!

Remember to:

- Make everything sparkly clean!
- Declutter all countertops, especially in the kitchen and bathrooms.
- Create that focal point in the rooms that you are staging (not all rooms need to be staged.)

Listed here are the things already mentioned in the book, *The Secret Sauce of Staging*, plus some other staging hacks that work:

- Curb Appeal: trim lawn, shrubs, trees, weeds
- Area outside the front of the house---clean off dirt on garage door, window sills, and front porch.
- Add plants with a “pop” of color
- Entryway: keep free of clutter
- Bathrooms: hang fresh towels. Get new ones that are extra fluffy for the Open House. Remove things like toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.
- Make it feel spa-like!!!
- Living Room: remember KISS (Keep It Simple Sweetheart). Less is more. Create that emotional connection. If needed, add a “pop” of color with new toss pillows on the sofa/chairs.
- Dining Room: Place centerpiece in the middle of the table. Add a table runner or placemats. Cloth napkins give it a touch of elegance. “Stage” the table by adding place settings.
- Kitchen: Remove things from the countertop, including small appliances, such as toasters and mixers, dishes, and pots and pans. Add fresh dish towels.
- Bedrooms: Do what your Mother told you to do---LOL: Make the bed. Pick up your clothes. Put your things away. Clear off the top of your dresser. Open the windows to let the room “air out.”
- Closets: Clean them out! This includes clothes closets, linen closets, and pantries. People want to imagine how their things are going to fit into those spaces. The less stuff you have in there, the bigger the space will appear.
- Laundry Room: Even millennials are reported to like laundry rooms! Keep your space organized, clean and free of debris and spilled detergent.