



GETTING READY

PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY FOR THE SHOOT

A LITTLE PREP GOES A LONG WAY.

A clear, photo-ready home starts with a simple plan.

INSIDE THE HOME

KITCHEN

- ☐ Clear all countertops (remove small appliances, mail, dish racks)
- ☐ Empty and hide dish drying rack and sponges
- ☐ Remove everything from the front of the refrigerator
- ☐ Clean and shine all surfaces, especially stainless steel
- ☐ Remove trash cans from view or place inside cabinets
- ☐ Add a simple centerpiece (bowl of fruit, fresh flowers)

BATHROOMS

- ☐ Remove all personal toiletries from counters and showers
- ☐ Put out fresh, matching towels (white or neutral preferred)
- ☐ Close toilet lids
- ☐ Remove bath mats, trash cans, and plungers
- ☐ Clean mirrors and glass until streak-free
- ☐ Add a small decorative touch (candle, plant, or soap dispenser)

LIVING SPACES & BEDROOMS

- ☐ Declutter all surfaces (remotes, chargers, personal items)
- ☐ Fluff and arrange pillows and throws neatly
- ☐ Make all beds with clean, wrinkle-free bedding
- ☐ Remove personal photos and kids' artwork from walls
- ☐ Open all blinds and curtains to maximize natural light
- ☐ Turn on all lamps and overhead lights

OUTSIDE THE HOME

EXTERIOR + GENERAL PREPARATION

CURB APPEAL

- ☐ Mow the lawn, trim hedges, remove weeds
- ☐ Clear walkways and driveways of debris, toys, vehicles
- ☐ Hide trash cans, recycling bins, garden hoses
- ☐ Clean the front door; add a welcoming touch (wreath, new mat)
- ☐ Sweep porches, patios, and decks
- ☐ Stage outdoor furniture if available

LIGHTING & AMBIANCE

- ☐ Replace any burned-out light bulbs throughout the home
- ☐ Turn ON every light in the house before we arrive
- ☐ Open all blinds, shades, and curtains fully
- ☐ Turn OFF all ceiling fans (they blur in photos)
- ☐ Turn OFF all TVs and computer screens
- ☐ Avoid mixing warm and cool bulbs

GENERAL DECLUTTERING

- ☐ Remove shoes, coats, bags from entryways
- ☐ Hide pet bowls, beds, litter boxes, toys
- ☐ Remove refrigerator magnets, calendars, sticky notes
- ☐ Tuck away all visible cords and cables
- ☐ Remove out-of-season decorations
- ☐ Tidy the garage as much as possible

DAY OF THE SHOOT

FINAL CHECKLIST

- ☐ Complete all prep at least 30 minutes before scheduled time
- ☐ Remove all vehicles from the driveway and in front of the home
- ☐ Secure pets in carriers or arrange for them to be off-site
- ☐ Take out all trash and recycling
- ☐ Final walk-through: every room, closet, and surface
- ☐ Leave the home if possible - fewer people = better photos
- ☐ Unlock all doors (closets, garage, etc.)
- ☐ Set thermostat to comfortable
- ☐ Leave garage door opener accessible if the garage will be shot

PRO TIP: WHEN IN DOUBT, LESS IS MORE. CLEAR IT OUT.