



Sherri Methvin
Cell: (405) 664-2398
Office: (405) 359-7400
<http://MyOKHomeSearch.com>

10 Ways to Make Your House More Attractive

Get rid of clutter. Throw out or file stacks of newspapers and magazines. Pack away most of your small decorative items. Store out-of-season clothing to make closets seem roomier. Clean out the garage. Personal Décor and pictures can be distracting – the idea is to leave room for the buyers to envision where they might put their belongings and decorations.

Wash your windows and screens to let more light into the interior.

Keep everything extra clean. Wash fingerprints from light switch plates. Mop and wax floors. Clean the stove and refrigerator. A clean house makes a better first impression and convinces buyers that the home has been well cared for.

Get rid of smells. Clean carpeting and drapes to eliminate cooking odors, smoke, and pet smells. Open the windows. You may even put out potpourri or scented candles.

Put higher wattage bulbs in light sockets to make rooms seem brighter, especially basements and other dark rooms. Replace any burnt-out bulbs. Use warm, incandescent light bulbs for a homey feel.

Make minor repairs that can create a bad impression. Small problems, such as sticky doors, torn screens, cracked caulking, or a dripping faucet, may seem trivial, but they'll give buyers the impression that the house isn't well maintained.

Tidy your yard. Cut the grass, rake the leaves, trim the bushes (especially near windows), and edge the walks and around trees. A well maintained yard speaks of a well maintained home.

Put a pot or two of bright flowers (or a small evergreen in winter) near the entryway. Add seasonal flowers to your landscaping for color – this is a most effective and economical way to add curb appeal.

Patch holes in your driveway and reapply sealant, if applicable.

Polish your front doorknob and door numbers. Make sure the door latches work smoothly – you may even want to replace some.

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