

# Before The Real Estate PhotoShoot

## What Should We Do to Prepare the Home for the Photoshoot?

- At a minimum, the house should look clean and organized.
- Decluttering countertops go a long way in making a home look open and inviting.
- Smaller things, such as removing visible garbage cans, can also make the house look cleaner.
- Perhaps most important, check to ensure every light fixture in the home turns on with a working light bulb.

## EXTERIOR:

- Park vehicles away from the house or in the garage.
- Freshen up landscaping.
- Remove trash, branches, leaves, etc.
- Remove dead plants, trees, etc.
- Sweep outdoor space and walkways.
- Remove visible foliage from the roof and gutters.
- Spread fresh mulch.
- Remove debris, hose, and toys from the pool.
- Store outdoor trash and recycling bins - it is best to place them in a garage area or in an outside shed for the photoshoot.
- Store garden hoses and caddy.
- Store outdoor tools, equipment, and so on.
- Store toys, bikes, etc.
- Store BBQ and accessories or clean it.
- Wash windows and glass doors.
- Clean outdoor furniture.
- Place pillows, umbrellas, etc., on outdoor furniture.
- Straighten outdoor furniture.
- Store seasonal decor.
- Mow the grass, rake up leaves, pull weeds, and remove any dead vegetation.

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## INTERIOR:

- \*The photographer will adjust the lighting accordingly.\*

## Window Shades Shutters and Blinds:

- Horizontal blinds and shutters** - it is best to keep horizontal blinds down. However, open the blades in a flat position to see the exterior. The exception is when you do not want to see outside the window (side of a house when a neighbor's house is visible.) In those cases, turn the shutter blades up a little.
- Vertical blinds** - usually look best fully open. The most important thing is that any wall with multiple window coverings is adjusted all the same.

## KITCHEN & DINING AREAS:

- Clear all countertops and remove clutter.
- Depersonalize home with photos, names, etc.
- Turn off fans; store portable fans.
- Clean mirrors and windows.
- Vacuum carpets and polish floors.
- Store wastebaskets out of sight.
- Store pet dishes, toys, beds, etc.
- Turn off televisions, computers, and dust screens.
- Display attractive books, magazines, etc.
- Store remote controls and chargers.
- Straighten furniture.
- Hide electrical cords and cables.
- Store seasonal decor.
- Remove rugs and runners in kitchens, entryways, and bathrooms so that the floor can be seen clearly.
- Remove excess furnishings and knick-knacks

# Before The Real Estate PhotoShoot

- Remove dirty dishes, food, etc.
- Store food.
- Clear counters of clutter and small appliances.
- Remove refrigerator magnets, photos, etc.
- Clean surfaces and appliances.
- Hide soaps, towels, cleaning items, etc.
- Store draining racks.
- Organize open shelves.
- Sweep and mop kitchen floor and rug.

## **LIVING AREAS:**

- Minimize photos and personal items.
- Organize bookshelves.
- Minimize knick-knacks.
- Set tables with simple place settings.
- Remove excess furniture and accessories.

## **BEDROOM:**

- Make the beds and remove wrinkles.
- Arrange decorative pillows.
- Store clothing and shoes.
- Remove items underneath the bed if they can be seen.
- Remove all clutter.
- Tidy master closets.
- Declutter and depersonalize bedside tables.
- Organize children's rooms and remove clutter.
- Remove laundry and stow hampers.

## **BATHROOMS:**

- Close toilet lids.
- Remove countertop items.
- Remove bath and shower items.

# Before The Real Estate PhotoShoot

- Store toilet brushes, plungers, and wastebaskets.
- Store towels.
- Store soaps and candles.

## **SWIMMING POOL AND SPAS:**

- Ensure their cleanliness.
- Get rid of dirt off the bottom and remove debris floating on top.
- Remove the cover, floating chlorine dispenser, pool sweep, and pool toys.
- Straighten lounge chairs, stow cleaning tools, and set up your patio umbrella if you have one.
- Turn on pool light(s), spa bubbles, and waterfalls.

**For More Information on Preparing Your Home For Photos, Please Contact Me:**

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