## **READY CHECKLIST**

## Key decisions

- Should you make any upgrades to increase home value or appeal? The kitchen & master bedroom/bath are the most important rooms.
- Do you hire a professional stager? Buyers have high expectations. If your house is shouting 1980s, this is not what today's buyers want.

## <u>Getting ready - inside</u>

- Declutter counters and closets. Remove excess furniture
- Depersonalize. Emphasize your home (not you or your family)
- Clean: Everything must be spotless, especially kitchen & bathrooms
- □ Wash windows. Take off screens during cleaning and keep off.
- Make your home as bright as possible. Use bright LED lightbulbs.
- Paint or touch up rooms. Use neutral colors
- Flooring: consider replacing dirty or worn carpets. Fix or replace scratched hardwood floors
- ☐ Hardware: address missing or loose handles
- Eliminate odors from pets, children and food
- □ If basement is humid, look into solutions before listing
- $\hfill\square$  Repair anything broken or plan to disclose during selling phase
- igsquare Resolve any open permits
- $\hfill\square$  Remove valuables and medicines
- Staging: Enhance the look and layout of each room. Add plants
- ☐ If you have lived in your home for 10+ years, consider getting an inspection to see if there are any issues to resolve before listing

## <u>Getting ready - outside</u>

- $\hfill \square$  Walk to the street, look back and assess your curb appeal
- Does the house need painting? Use neutral colors
- Power-wash the deck and walkways
- What condition is the mailbox?
- Ensure mulch is fresh and neat
- Trim back overgrown plants. Remove dead limbs or trees
- Seed bare spots in the lawn
- Resolve any open exterior permits
- Add colorful plants to walkway/near doorway

