

## **DECLUTTERING CHECKLIST**



**Decluttering your home** is a crucial step in preparing it for sale. A clean, organized space can make your home more appealing to buyers and help you achieve the best possible price.

I am always happy to make a personalized referral to a professional organizer for my clients, once we've had an opportunity to meet and discuss your needs in more detail.

Whether you choose to work with me, another realtor, or stay right where you are, there are definitely some best practices to consider when decluttering.













## DECLUTTERING CHECKLIST WHEN STAGING YOUR HOME TO SELL

- **Set a Timeline:** Determine your target listing date and work backward to create a decluttering schedule.
- Gather Supplies: Stock up on boxes, bags, tape, and markers for labeling.
- **Enlist Help:** Ask family and friends, or hire a professional organizer to assist.
- Choose a Low-Stress Area: Begin with a smaller, less sentimental space like a guest bedroom, bathroom, or hallway closet.
- Work in Sections: Tackle one room or area at a time to avoid feeling overwhelmed.
- Use the Four-Box Method Label boxes or sections as:
  - **Keep:** Items you'll take to your next home.
  - Donate: Items in good condition that you no longer need take usable items to local charities or donation centers.
  - **Sell:** Valuable items that could be sold online or in a garage sale.
  - **Dispose:** Broken or unusable items to be recycled or thrown away.
- **Living Room:** Remove excess furniture, personal items, and decor. Keep the space bright and open.
- **Kitchen:** Clear counters of small appliances and clutter. Organize cabinets and remove expired food.
- **Bedrooms:** Simplify by keeping only essential furniture and a few decorative items. Clear closets to showcase storage space.
- **Bathrooms:** Minimize personal items on counters and ensure cleanliness. Replace old towels with fresh ones for staging.
- **Garage/Basement:** Sort through tools, equipment, and stored items. Donate or dispose of anything you haven't used in over a year.
- **Outdoor Spaces:** Remove unused outdoor furniture, tools, and decor. Ensure the yard and entryways are tidy.
- **Deep Clean:** Schedule a thorough cleaning or hire professionals to ensure your home is spotless.
- **Stage Strategically:** Arrange furniture and decor to highlight your home's best features.
- **Store Excess Items:** Rent a storage unit for larger items or seasonal belongings that don't need to be in the home during showings.

Decluttering not only prepares your home for sale but also simplifies your transition to the next chapter. Take it step by step, and don't hesitate to ask for help if needed!





