



# Preparing Your Home For Photography

## Inside the home

### General:

1. De-clutter as much as possible. Put away toys, clothing, dishes, towels, shoes etc.
2. Depersonalize to a certain degree. Remove family photos and any potentially offensive art.
3. Remove any seasonal/holiday decorations that can quickly outdate your photos.
4. Dust and vacuum.
5. If there are pets, hide all food/water bowls, pet beds, and pet toys.
6. Replace all burned out light bulbs. Light bulbs should be the same color...soft white is best.
7. Consider putting out vases of fresh flowers.
8. Arrange books on shelves so they don't look haphazard.
9. Remove excessive rugs and runners. A couple is fine, but let us see those beautiful hardwoods.

### Kitchen:

1. Clean the kitchen sink and put away all the dishes.
2. Clear counter tops of clutter. Leave nicer appliances and decor, but it should look sparse.
3. Remove all magnets and decorations from the refrigerator.
4. Hide all trash cans.
5. Place a bowl of fruit on the counter and maybe some flowers near the window.

### Bathrooms:

1. Clear all bathroom counter tops and put away all personal items.
2. Remove all shampoos, conditioners, body-washes, etc. from the shower.
3. Put out new, freshly washed white towels and hide your every-day towels in the closet.
4. Put all toilet seats and lids down.
5. Hide trash cans and cleaning utensils.

### Bedrooms:

1. Make all the beds, fluff all the pillows, and check the bed skirts.
2. Clear the floor to create more visual floor space.
3. Clear off any desks or work spaces so they are not visually distracting.



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## Outside the home

- Have the lawn trimmed, leaves raked, bushes and trees pruned.
- Clean up after any animals.
- Put away all garbage cans, hoses, garden tools, toys, bikes, etc.
- Hide security alert yard signs.
- Clean and uncover pool, hot tub, and spa.
- Open umbrellas on patio sets.
- Remove grills unless part of outdoor living space.
- Remove seasonal/holiday decorations.
- Consider adding splashes of bright-colored flowers to the landscape and in pots.
- For twilight photos, replace broken lighting on the exterior, around the landscape, and in the pool.

## Before the Photographer Arrives

- Turn on ALL interior lights. — even lights in furniture cabinets.
- Turn off all ceiling fans.
- Light fireplaces.
- Open all blinds, shades, and curtains.
- Remove cars and vehicles from the driveway and the street in front of the home.
- Secure potentially aggressive animals in a safe locations, away from rooms being photographed.