SELLING YOUR HOME

HOME REPAIR AND CLEANING CHECKLIST

Windermere REAL ESTATE

EXTERIOR:

- ☐ Remove peeling and chipped paint; replace with a fresh coat.
- ☐ Fix loose trim and fencing.
- ☐ Clear gutters and downspouts.
- ☐ Make sure there is good exterior lighting and all walkway lights and front-door lanterns work.
- ☐ Clean and repair the roof as needed.
- ☐ Clear garage of clutter and tidy shelves.
- ☐ Inspect chimney for cracks and damage.

YARD:

- ☐ Mow and trim grass; re-seed and fertilize where necessary.
- ☐ Prune all overgrown trees and shrubs.
- ☐ Weed flower beds. Remove or replace dead or diseased plants, shrubs and trees.
- ☐ Clean grease and oil stains from driveway.

DECKS/PATIOS:

- ☐ Paint or stain worn areas on wood decks.
- ☐ Remove grass growing in concrete cracks; sweep off debris from shrubs and trees.
- ☐ Clean all deck rails and make sure they're secure; replace missing slats or posts.
- ☐ Clean outdoor furniture.

FRONT DOOR:

- ☐ Polish or replace the door hardware so it shines.
- ☐ Add a fresh coat of paint to get rid of nicks.
- ☐ Clean the glass on the storm door; make certain the screen is secure.
- ☐ Make sure the doorbell operates properly and there are no squeaks when the door opens and closes.

WINDOWS:

- ☐ Clean all windows inside and out.
- ☐ If needed, add a fresh coat of paint to the window trims and sills.
- ☐ Make sure all windows open and close easily.
- ☐ Replace cracked windowpanes and those with broken seals.
- ☐ Make sure window screens are clean and secure; replace any screens with holes or tears.

ENTRY:

- ☐ Clean entryway floors and area rugs.
- ☐ Downsize clutter in the entry and entry closet to give the appearance of spaciousness.
- ☐ Double-check entry lighting to make sure it works.

THROUGHOUT:

- ☐ Clean all floors, carpets, walls and trim.
- ☐ Replace burned-out light bulbs.
- ☐ Empty trash.
- ☐ Remove family photos, valuables, and prescription drugs.

KITCHEN:

- ☐ Make sure countertops, grout, and sinks are clean and stain-free. Replace grout as needed.
- ☐ Fix dripping faucets.
- ☐ Organize pantry and cupboards so they appear clean, neat and spacious.
- ☐ Make sure the refrigerator and freezer are defrosted and free of odors.
- ☐ Clean the oven and cook-top thoroughly.
- ☐ Set the table.

Opening Doors...

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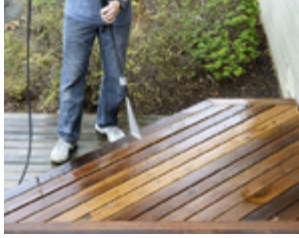

LIVING/FAMILY/DINING ROOMS:

- ☐ Give rooms a fresh coat of paint as needed.
- ☐ Repair cracks and holes in ceiling and walls.
- ☐ Make sure all wallpaper is secure.
- ☐ Repaint any woodwork that is worn or chipped.
- ☐ Clean or replace draperies and blinds; open them to maximize light.
- ☐ Make sure draperies and blinds open and close.
- ☐ Steam-clean carpets. Clean rugs and wood flooring, and remove any stains or odors.
- ☐ Position the furniture to showcase the size and space of the room.
- ☐ Remove and replace any attached items, such as chandeliers and draperies, that you wish to move with you.
- ☐ Put away toys and hobby supplies; remove extra magazines and books from tables.

BATHROOMS:

- ☐ Make sure sinks, tubs, showers and countertops are clean and free of stains.
- ☐ Repair any leaky faucets.
- ☐ Remove grout and soap stains from tile.
- ☐ Replace any missing or cracked tiles or grout.
- ☐ Make sure all joints are caulked.
- ☐ Make sure all fixtures, including heat lamps and exhaust fans, are operating.
- ☐ Install a new shower curtain and buy matching towels.
- ☐ Store all supplies, such as toilet paper, shampoo bottles and cleansers, out of sight.

BEDROOMS:

- ☐ Repair cracks in ceiling and walls.
- ☐ Apply a fresh coat of paint if necessary.
- ☐ Make sure wallpaper is secure.
- ☐ Clean draperies and blinds; open them to maximize light.
- ☐ Put away toys, clothes, and clutter.
- ☐ Neatly make up the beds.

BASEMENT:

- ☐ Check for water penetration or dampness; call for professional repairs if necessary.
- ☐ Get rid of musty odors.
- ☐ Clean furnace, hot water heater, and drains.
- ☐ Make sure light fixtures work.
- ☐ Arrange storage area in a neat and organized manner.
- ☐ Make sure stairway handrail is secure.

TIDY EXTRAS:

- ☐ Use air fresheners or bake treats to make the house smell good.
- ☐ Plant flowers to brighten a walkway and enrich the entry.
- ☐ Remove any indoor houseplants that are brown or losing their leaves.
- ☐ Remove all “fixer” cars, campers and boats from the property.
- ☐ Tidy and declutter all closets.
- ☐ Hide or get rid of worn-out throw pillows.
- ☐ Store pet supplies.
- ☐ At night, turn on the porch light and outdoor lighting. Buyers often drive by homes they are considering at various times of day.

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