



Adding Curb Appeal - First Impression Matter When Selling

First impressions are everything and they are made quickly. In the case of selling a home, curb appeal is the first impression that you get to make to buyers. It's a snapshot of what buyers can expect to see inside. If your home is a mess on the outside, why would buyers think it's anything but a mess inside?

If you need help when preparing your home to sell our professional agents can help you determine which tasks need to be completed in order to make your home look appealing to buyers.

Contact Swanson Real Estate at 815-786-9418 or 630-882-9548.

- Keep the grass cut. Cut about 2" to 3" at a time and never cut more than a third of its total height at a time.
- Edge your sidewalks
- Remove dead branches out of trees
- Maintain bushes, shrubs, trees with regular pruning
- Pick and adhere to a color scheme when planting flowers
- Choose flowers that will thrive in your yard (i.e. for shaded yards, don't choose flowers that need full sun)
- Repair and clean gutters and downspouts
- Keep water hoses on reels or put away
- Pick up after your dog
- Fertilize your grass
- Pull weeds from flower beds
- Rid your lawn of dandelions
- Put up a new mailbox or straighten and paint your current mailbox
- Keep bikes and outdoor toys stored in garage or shed when not in use
- Update house numbers and ensure that they are easy to see from the road

- Swap out old, boring porch lights for something more dramatic
- Put out a welcome mat
- Paint your front door
- Choose porch furniture that is easy to maintain and matches the color and style of your home's exterior
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- Replace any missing shingles from your roof
- If you have a pool, keep it clean
- Repair any damaged siding or replace any missing siding
- Give your home's exterior a new coat of paint
- Remove cobwebs from the ceiling of your porch
- Pressure wash your deck
- Re-stain and seal your deck as needed
- Repair cracks in your sidewalk and driveway
- Reseal asphalt driveway
- Add window boxes and fill with flowers
- Put down fresh mulch in your flower beds
- Light up your landscape and walkway with outdoor solar fixtures
- Paint your shutters
- Clean the inside and outside of all your windows
- Powerwash walkways
- Remove out of control ivy or other climbing plants from the side of your home
- Paint or re-stain your fence
- Ensure your fence gate is in good working condition
- Remove old tree stumps from the yard
- Paint your garage doors
- Power wash the exterior of your home