

Photography Pre-Shoot Checklist

Following this checklist will help ensure that your home is photo-ready and will produce the best results!
Organize and declutter! Less is more! Let the light shine in! Clean, clean, clean!

Exterior spaces

- ___ Remove vehicles from driveway and front of house
- ___ Place trash cans and other items in garage
- ___ Trim trees, shrubs and remove weeds
- ___ Mow, water, and rake grass
- ___ Pressure wash driveway, walkways, pool decks
- ___ Organize and clean deck furniture, uncover grill, open patio umbrella
- ___ Make yard free of toys and evidence of pets
- ___ Clean windows
- ___ Replace broken windows and screens
- ___ Put away all pool toys, supplies, hoses
- ___ Hide any unnecessary clutter
- ___ Replace burned out lightbulbs, remove signs

Kitchen

- ___ Remove everything from surface of fridge, like magnets, pictures and lists
- ___ Remove all rugs and dishtowels
- ___ Clean appliances, no fingerprints, smudges
- ___ Stow away small appliances, off countertops
- ___ Clear countertops and sink area off as much as possible, no dish or hand soap, sponges
- ___ Make sure sink is clean, shiny and free of dishes
- ___ Put trash can away, out of sight
- ___ Straighten bar stools and table chairs
- ___ Some fresh flowers or a bowl of fruit is nice
- ___ Remove pet supplies and unsightly floor mats

Dining area

- ___ Remove all clutter
- ___ A nice centerpiece in center of table, or nothing
- ___ Straighten chairs, clean and dust Bedrooms

Bedrooms

- ___ Organize furniture to create space
- ___ Use fresh, clean bedding and pillows
- ___ Declutter and organize walk-in closet
- ___ Dust furniture and lighting, ceiling fans
- ___ Minimize items on display, remove family photos, less is more
- ___ Stow away devices, chargers, toys, cords

Laundry

- ___ Remove all clothing in machine or hanging
- ___ Organize shelving, store away as much as possible, including laundry baskets
- ___ Clean appliances, declutter, organize

Interior spaces

- ___ Organize and DECLUTTER all rooms, removing all unnecessary items or furniture
- ___ Remove personal information and photos, remember these photos will be online
- ___ Remove all evidence of pets (beds, food, toys)
- ___ Turn on ALL lights, including lamps, replace burned out bulbs
- ___ Turn off all ceiling fans, TVs, computers, etc.
- ___ Open blinds and curtains to let in as much light as possible
- ___ Remove all signs of political or religious preferences
- ___ Touch up paint on walls and doors.
- ___ Conceal power cords, unplug if needed
- ___ Remove unsightly floor mats or rugs

Bathrooms

- ___ Clear sink area of all personal products
- ___ Super clean all surfaces, including mirrors
- ___ Stow away shower products and supplies
- ___ Clean or replace shower curtain
- ___ Clean grout or re-caulk sinks, tubs & showers
- ___ Place fresh, matching accent towels
- ___ Remove rugs and bathmats
- ___ Close toilet lid, put out a fresh roll of toilet paper
- ___ Remove trash can, toilet brush
- ___ A small plant for decor is nice

How long will the shoot take?

Most shoots take 60-90 minutes. Some will take longer.

What do I do with my pets?

It is best to take them off property, if possible, or kept in the garage or a kennel.

What should I do during the shoot?

If you are home, it is best to wait in one room with your children until the photographer has finished and is ready to shoot that room.

When should I start preparing?

The sooner the better! It takes time, but it's worth the effort!

Last minute double check?

Look around your house and check that all lights and lamps are on, ceiling fans are off, blinds and curtains are wide open, toilet lids are down, clutter is stowed, trash cans are hidden and everything is staged. Remember, less is more!

Keep in mind that many strangers will be viewing these photos! Remove and personal information like calendars, password, notes, lists, and family photos.