

Curb Appeal Checklist

Goal: Instant Sell!

Within seconds of seeing the outside of the home, buyers have formed an opinion of its condition. They spend the rest of the visit looking for confirmations on their opinion.

Really Clean

- Doors and windows
- Light fixtures
- Garbage, litter in bushes
- Sweep and rake all decks, walks, porches, etc.
- Mow lawn – When lawns are brown they have often been mowed too short – raise the blade; this will allow the grass to shade itself and not burn out. This will also help choke weeds and create a more lush look
- Trimming trees which block the view and sunlight can be helpful
- Removing moss and debris from roof, gutters and walkways
- Walkways should be shovelled and sanded during winter

Remove or Store

- All dead plants, empty pots and planters
- Children's toys pack them away or keep in one area of the yard
- If it's not attached, pack or toss!
- Any litter or garbage on the property
- Remove screen door (if possible)
- Window screens (if possible)
- Any animal waste from yard
- Boats, RVs, Snowmobiles, Watercraft, ATVs, etc.
- Construction material/debris

Replace or Repair

- Front door and trim paint if old looking
- Garage doors if broken or need paint
- Light fixtures that do not work, are dated or are too small
- Decks – pressure wash, stain and/or paint
- Trim or edging that may be damaged
- Mend broken fences and painting if necessary
- Add a new kick plate for a fresh look

Review & Detail

- Create a nice setting with outdoor furniture
- Tuck away garden hose
- Mulch beds
- Eaves troughs and downspouts are in good repair
- Doorbell and door hardware are in good repair and functioning
- Repaint front door – consider contrasting, punchy colour, to create a lasting impression
- The front yard is an area where work doesn't sell! The yard needs to be neat and tidy – if it is overgrown buyers think they will need to do yard work every weekend. Everything needs to be well cared for and presented
- Get a good fertilizer and water your lawn well ... let it grow. Once all the grass catches up and is the same length you will have a great lawn.
- Edge your lawn. Sidewalks, flower beds, and driveways should have a clean line.