

Pre-Shoot Checklist for Homeowners

Preparing your home for photography is key to capturing stunning visuals. Use this guide to ensure your property is photo-ready.



General Interior Preparation

- Declutter surfaces and remove personal items
- Clean windows and mirrors for optimal light
- Ensure all light bulbs are working
- Open blinds and curtains to maximize natural light

Exterior Preparations



Lawn

Mow the lawn, trim edges, and remove any debris.



Garden

Weed flower beds, prune bushes, and add fresh mulch.



Driveway & Walkways

Remove cars, bikes, and toys, clean any stains.



Entryway

Sweep porch, clean front door, and add a potted plant.



Vehicles

Park away from the property or move out of sight.

Interior Room-by-Room Guide



Living & Family Room

- Arrange furniture for space
- Hide cords/remotes
- Turn off TVs/computers
- Clean and stage the fireplace with logs or candles



Dining Room

- Set the table with dinnerware or a centerpiece
- Space chairs evenly
- Use soft, ambient lighting and fresh flowers



Kitchen

- Clear counters
- Clean sink/appliances
- Remove fridge magnets
- Organize cabinets and drawers to appear spacious



Bedrooms

- Make beds with clean linens
- Clear nightstands (add a lamp/book)
- Organize closets and remove personalized items



Bathrooms

- Clear counters
- Clean shower/tub of soap scum
- Polish fixtures and mirrors

- Hide all toiletries and personal care products



Pets

Remove pets from the premises during the photoshoot.
Hide all pet supplies (food bowls, toys, litter boxes).



Basement Preparations

Preparing a basement requires special attention due to lighting challenges and potential for clutter.

Lighting: Add extra lighting (lamps, spotlights, or LEDs) if natural light is limited.

Decluttering: Remove unnecessary items and boxes to create a sense of space.

Staging: Showcase potential use: home office, entertainment area, or gym.

Walls/Ceilings: Clean dust and cobwebs; consider a fresh coat of paint if needed.

Safety: Ensure the area is well-lit and safe for the photographer.

Unfinished Spaces: Focus on highlighting size, ceiling height, and cleanliness.

Final Touches

- Do a final walk-through to ensure everything is in place.
- Open all blinds and curtains to maximize natural light.
- Turn on all lights.
- Remove any trash or recycling bins from view.
- Make sure the photographer has clear access to all areas.
- Leave the property before the photographer arrives.