

# Home Buyer's Checkbook

## The better way to buy a house

Buying a home can be one of the most fun and exciting times in your life- but with all the choices available on the market, where to you begin?

Make the selection of your home easier by starting with this checklist to narrow the field of possible houses. By identifying exactly what you want in a home before you begin your search, you can make the entire process run more smoothly.

Then call on your Paul Law Realty, GMAC Real Estate sales professional for help in matching your needs and wants to the right home in your area. Now, you are ready to find exactly the home you're looking for!

### What I'm looking for in the overall features of my new home:

+ = Must have

0 = Prefer, but not essential

- = Don't want/don't care

+ 0 -

1-story

1-1/2- to 2-story

3-story

Split level

Single-family home

Townhouse

Condominium

Average-sized lot

Large lot

Wooded lot

Lot with mature trees

Patio

Deck

Screened porch

One-car garage

Two- or more car garage

Attached garage

Carport/other outdoor parking

Garden areas

Other features that say "home"

### What I'm looking for in the style of my new home:

+ = Must have

0 = Prefer, but not essential

- = Don't want/don't care

+ 0 -

A classic old house

An old house that looks new

A new house that looks classic

A modern new house

Duplex that looks like a duplex

- Duplex that doesn't look like a duplex
- Contemporary
- Traditional
- Victorian
- Cape Cod
- Country farmhouse
- Spanish
- One-of-a-kind
- Natural or stained wood exterior
- Painted wood exterior
- Aluminum/steel-siding exterior
- Brick exterior
- Stucco exterior
- Shingled roof
- Wood-shingled roof
- Tiled roof
- Mature landscaping
- New landscaping
- Gardening areas
- Minimal-upkeep lawn
- Average-upkeep lawn
- Above-average-upkeep lawn

**What I'm looking for in the interior of my new home:**

+ = Must have

0 = Prefer, but not essential

- = Don't want/don't care

+ 0 -

- One bedroom
- Two bedrooms
- Three or more bedrooms
- Master bedroom suite
- Bedroom fireplace
- One bathroom
- Two bathrooms
- Three or more bathrooms
- Average-size kitchen
- Large to extra-large kitchen
- Eat-in kitchen
- Formal dining room
- Family room
- Great room
- Family/great room fireplace
- Office/den/library
- Basement

- Finished basement
- Walk-out basement
- Basement laundry room
- 1st floor/other laundry room
- Mud room
- Walk-in closets
- Extra closets
- Separate living quarters
- Other inside features

**What I'm looking for in the interior decor of my new home:**

+ = Must have

0 = Prefer, but not essential

- = Don't want/don't care

+ 0 -

- Formal interior
- Informal interior
- Contemporary interior
- Country interior
- Spacious open floor plan
- Divided zoned floor plan
- Wood or tile floors
- Fully carpeted
- Vaulted ceilings
- Open beamed ceilings
- Hardwood cabinets
- Laminated cabinets
- Tiled kitchen counter and backsplash
- Double-hung windows
- Casement windows
- Bay windows
- Other things that make an impression

**What I'm looking for that makes me say "It's perfect!":**

+ = Must have

0 = Prefer, but not essential

- = Don't want/don't care

+ 0 -

- Close to downtown
- Close to park
- Easy commuting to [fill in]
- Country environment
- Lake/river frontage
- City neighborhood
- Suburban neighborhood
- New neighborhood

- Established neighborhood
  - Quiet, low-traffic neighborhood
  - Cul-de-sac
  - Neighborhood with singles
  - Neighborhood with couples
  - Neighborhood with kids
- [fill in age range]

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Close to school [fill in]

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Close to church [fill in]

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Part of town [fill in]

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Preferred exposure [fill in]

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- View
  - Fenced yard
  - Ready to move into
  - Needs redecorating
  - Needs remodeling
  - Fixer upper
  - Easily expanded for extra room
  - Super-insulated, high energy efficiency
  - Minimal number of windows
  - Lots of windows
  - Skylight(s)
  - Greenhouse
  - Swimming pool
  - Sauna/Hot tub
  - Tennis court
  - Exercise room
  - Wet bar
  - Wood stove
  - Intercom system
  - Burglar-alarm system
  - Dishwasher
  - Garbage disposal
  - Trash compactor
  - Central vacuum system
  - Dog run
  - Central air conditioning
  - Gas heat
  - Electric heat

Assumable loan

Buy on contract

FHA financing

Other important extras

*Please use the following "Notes" pages to write in detail about any specific features not covered on this list, or include additional details about important features that require more explanation.*

Notes

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