



10 Things to Consider When Choosing Your New Home

- 1. Price.** Once you have your budget set, look for homes that fit your range. Keep in mind that you'll need to leave room for closing costs, possible renovations or upgrades, moving costs, etc.
- 2. Bedrooms.** The size and layout of your new home and its number of bedrooms is a major consideration. You should not only think of your current needs, but what you may need in the future.
- 3. Bathrooms.** The same as your bedroom count and size, you should figure out how many bathrooms best fit your household needs as well as the features in them, and if they will require renovation.
- 4. Kitchen.** Considered by many to be the "heart of the house," your kitchen needs/wants can take up some of your post-closing budget if you will have to upgrade or renovate, so keep that in mind during your search.
- 5. Dining Room.** This can be a separate formal room, or a combo style with your kitchen area. Keep in mind your own personal household dining requirements when looking at different styles.
- 6. Location.** Even when you are sure of the city and/or certain part of town you'd love to live in, even particular streets within those areas can be different. Also consider the distance to major thoroughfares and work commutes.
- 7. Style.** There are condos, colonials, duplexes, ranches and many other styles of home. You'll have to find the one that you prefer and fits your household's needs.
- 8. Outdoor Spaces.** From curb appeal and front porches to backyard gardens and lawn maintenance needs, there are many considerations to take in when you're looking at the exterior property details of your new home.
- 9. Storage and Parking.** These are two important space needs that can affect the convenience of your home - and its comfort and "live-ability". Pay attention to these areas and if they fit your lifestyle and household needs.
- 10. Energy Efficiency.** The condition of windows and HVAC systems can make a significant impact on monthly energy costs, so this might be something you keep in mind when considering your home.