

Savvy Staging: Tips for Success & Pitfalls to Avoid

Tips

Get inspired

Visit open houses to gather staging ideas and see how your home stacks up against the competition.

Have a plan

Create a checklist of tasks you must accomplish to get your home in show condition.

Ask for help

If you decide to DIY your staging, get an unbiased opinion from a professional.

Keep it real

Declutter the home, but include simple touches like colorful throw pillows or a fruit bowl.

Mind the minutiae

Make sure locks, doors and drawers easily open and close; spruce up baseboards and trim; replace worn house numbers or mailboxes.

Update, don't renovate

Instead of completely redoing a space, consider smaller updates like new cabinet hardware, light fixtures or a coat of paint.

Pitfalls

Less is more

Don't just hide clutter; jumpstart your packing! Purge extra belongings and unwanted junk.

The nose knows

Deep clean to eliminate lingering odors, and avoid potpourri and heavily perfumed air fresheners.

Real shabby isn't chic

Use quality furnishings when staging—don't leave only second-best furniture behind.

Silence is golden

Skip the mood music during a showing; the noise just distracts buyers from focusing on the home.

Be honest with yourself

Take sample photos of your home after staging and view them critically on your computer. Are you impressed? If not, revisit areas that need more work.



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