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We understand that buying a home can be challenging. While the market can fluctuate daily, hundreds of homes are sold each week in our area.

Thank you for choosing to put your trust in us for the process of buying your home. Our team is committed to ensuring that ALL of your real estate needs are not just met, but exceeded! We've created this book for your convenience and we hope that it will be a valuable resource. While the entire process is outlined for you here, please know that we will be staying in constant contact with you throughout the process. Your experience will be unique and we will adjust our service according to your wants and needs. Our focus is on your complete satisfaction.



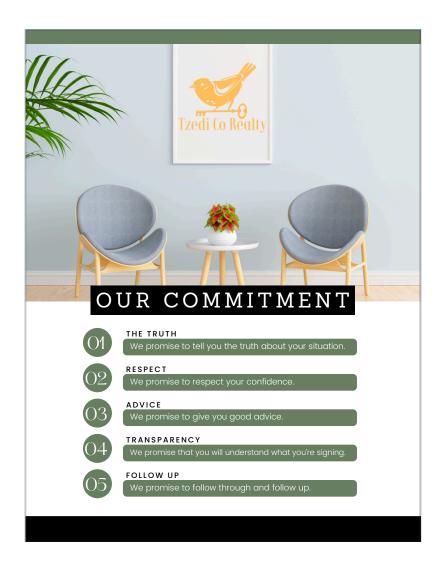
We hope this buyer's guide answers any questions you may have about getting into your next home!

We are here to help with any of your real estate needs, so please don't hesitate to reach out!

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SECTION 01

finances

THE BASICS

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GETTING PREAPPROVED

When it comes to buying a home, we are sure you have seen the terms "pre-approval" and "pre-qualification" everywhere. Although they sound similar, these are actually two different things! Here's how you can tell which is which:

PRE-QUALIFICATION

- A quick "snapshot" that helps you know how much mortgage money you might qualify for.
- May require a credit check, depending on your state.
- Does not require documentation of your financial situation.
- Provided by a lender as a ballpark estimate.
- Does not work as a signal that you are ready to purchase a home.

PRE-APPROVAL

- Always requires a credit check.Verified financial history, including documentation.
- Should you choose to, you can get a mortgage for the amount and terms for which you are pre-approved.
- No commitment to receive a mortgage from the pre-approving company.
- A sign that you are very serious and ready to purchase a home.

As a rule of thumb, a pre-APPROVED buyer is seen as a more serious buyer. When you offer on a home, you include your pre-approval with your offer. This shows a seller that you are serious about purchasing a home.



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FINANCING TYPES

There are many types of mortgages, but here are details on common qualifications for some of the more popular programs:

PROGRAM	REQUIREMENTS
CONVENTIONAL	620 score as low as 3% down
FHA	580 score (down to 520 with 10% down) 3.5% down Not just for first time homebuyers!
VA	580 score 0% down
USDA	620 score 0% down

Jou don't relid 20% down!!

Why is 20% down seen as the "magic number" for down payment? When

Why is 20% down seen as the "magic number" for down payment? When the LTV (loan-to-value) ration of a mortgage is 80% or less, the buyer does not have to pay PMI- Primary Mortgage Insurance. This is insurance that protects the lender in case the buyer defaults on the loan.

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Buying Expenses



Earnest Money	\$
Appraisal Fee	\$
CL 100 Termite Inspection	\$
Home Inspection	\$
HVAC Inspection	\$
Additional Inspections	\$
Reinspection Fee	\$
Lender Estimated Closing Costs	\$
Down Payment	\$
Home Warranty	\$
Lenders Estimated Escrow Account	\$
Seller paid closing costs? (subtract)	\$
Total Estimated Buying Expenses	\$
These figures are estimates of the charges you will incur and cannot be used as	a guarantee.

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SECTION 02

finding "the one"

SHOWINGS & OFFERS

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FIRST HOME?

or forever home?

Owning a home is the single best investment that you can make. Your mortgage payment stays the same for the like of the loan (with a fixed APR mortgage & excluding change in taxes or insurance). Whether it's your first home or your forever home, we are excited to help you on your journey!

BENEFITS OF BUYING

-You build equity. -Tax benefits.

-You can renovate and decorate as you see fit.
-Security: you get to decide if and when you move.
-Homeowners are more likely to connect to their community.
-Statistically, children test better & have less behavioral issues.

6%

AVERAGE INCREASE OF RENT PRICES PER YEAR 65.4%

NATIONWIDE RATE OF CURRENT EQUITY IN HOMES 3.8%

NATIONAL APPRECIATION PER YEAR

The average American will own

houses in their lifetime.

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The Basic LOCATION: BEDROOMS: BATHROOMS:	S	
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- PURCHASE PRICE & FINANCE INFO
 How much do you want to offer? Is financing being used?
- **EARNEST MONEY & TERMINATION FEE**How much "good faith" money? Is there a termination fee? 02
- PERSONAL PROPERTY INCLUDED
 Do you want the fridge or washer/dryer to convey with the home? 03
- WHO PAYS CERTAIN FEES
 If there is a home warranty, who pays for it? Who is covering closing costs? 04
- CLOSING DATE
 When would you like to close on the home? 05
- CONTINGENCIES (SEE NEXT PAGE)

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OFFER CONTINGENCIES

-inancing A buyer is often using financing to purchase the home. The financing contingency means that if your loan does not go through at no fault of your own (i.e. you lose your job), you are no longer required to close on the property and will often get your earnest money back. We will explain the terms of your specific contract. Inspections

tome

Buyers will often buy the home with a due diligence period. During this period, you may get any inspections done that you want. Depending upon your contract, you may then have the right to either back out, request repairs, or move forward with the property as-is. We will guide you through this process based on the terms of your contract.

Many buyers use financing that requires the home to appraise at a certain value. A licensed third-party appraiser will be hired by your lender to come out and give the official "appraised value" of the property. If the property does not appraise for a certain amount, we may need to re-negotiate your contract price.

ale & (fose Sometimes a buyer has to sell their previous home in order to be able to close on their purchase. This will be revealed in the original offer. If something happens and your previous property does not sell, you may have to pull out of your new purchase.

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THE OFFER PROCESS

AFTER YOU SEND AN OFFER

We will go over your offer details together. Once the details are thoroughly reviewed and understood, we will send it to the seller's agent. They will have three options:

1- ACCEPT THE OFFER 2- DECLINE THE OFFER 3- COUNTER OFFER

If they agree to most of the offer but want to change a few details, they can counter the buyer with the new terms.

We can negotiate back and forth as many times as needed until you reach an agreement or someone chooses to walk away.

ONCE AN OFFER IS ACCEPTED BY BOTH PARTIES, YOU ARE OFFICIALLY UNDER CONTRACT-.

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SECTION 03

under contract & closing

CONTINGENCIES & CLOSING

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INSPECTIONS

If your contract allows, you will now order inspections. Your agent will help coordinate these to accommodate everyone as best as possible. If your contract allows for repair negotiations, your agent will also be the one communicating with the seller's agent on your behalf.



three main inspections

<u>CL100</u>

THIS WILL CHECK FOR TERMITES, OTHER PESTS, DAMAGE FROM PESTS, AND WATER LEAKS/DAMAGE.

GENERAL INSPECTION

THIS WILL CHECK EVERYTHING FROM WIRING TO WINDOWS. IT GIVES A BASIC OVERVIEW OF THE ENTIRE HOME AND ALERTS US IF WE NEED TO GET A SPECIALIZED CONTRACTOR OUT TO THE HOME.

HVAC

THIS WILL CHECK FOR POTENTIAL ISSUES WITH THE HEATING AND COOLING OF THE HOME.

Additional inspections may include: well, septic, pool, roof, electrical, plumbing, foundation, etc.

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REPAIR ADDENDUM

& 4U-NGOTATING

Your inspections may have uncovered some ssues that you just are not comfortable with! If your contract allows, you may send in a repair addendum! In response to this, sellers can do one of three things:

- Agree to have all repairs done.
 Say no to all repairs.
- 3. Negotiate the repairs.

The good thing is that your contract is USUALLY contingent upon an agreement being made. We will guide you in what your contract allows, and will have your back with whatever decisions you make!

UH-OH, IT APPRAISED LOW!

Sometimes an appraiser cannot find the contract value in the house. This can be an issues if you have an appraisal contingency. This re-opens the door for price negotiations. You can pay the cash difference, appeal the appraisal, or ask the seller to lower price. Don't worry, you will never be forced to pay more than the appraisal price as long as you have the appraisal contingency!



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CLOSING Day

WHAT IS CLOSING?

Closing is when the seller signs over ownership paperwork and hands over the keys! This means that ALL contingencies have been

FINAL WALK-THROUGH

As a buyer, you will do a final walk of the home usually within 24 hours of closing to check the property's condition. This final inspection takes about an hour.

WE WILL BE SURE TO

- Make sure that any repairs that they have agreed to have been completed.
- Ensure that the home is in a clean condition.
 Make sure that their personal property is all out of the house (unless written into the
- Check that no other issues have arisen in the home since your inspections.

CLOSING TABLE

Who may be there:

- Your agent (ME) & seller's agent
 Seller
- Closing Attorney
 Your Lender

BRING TO CLOSING

- Government-issued photo ID
 Any funds needed to close (usually wired to the closing attorney beforehand)



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