

Getting Started - Home Buyers Checklist

1. Make sure you are ready

- You have a stable job/income.
- You can see yourself living in the same town for the next five to ten years.
- You are prepared for the extra work that comes with homeownership.

2. Create your home wish list

- Use the handy chart below to determine what is most important to have right now (e.g. location, number of beds, yard, etc.).
- Check out different neighborhoods, home styles and listings online to get a feel for what is most important to you.

3. Figure out what you can afford

- Request your credit report from all three credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion). Fix any errors right away.
- Determine a down payment amount (ideally 3-20% to avoid paying private mortgage insurance).
- Calculate how much you will need in an emergency fund (for unexpected maintenance or repair costs).

4. Gather necessary documents

- Collect proof of employment, including pay stubs and past tax returns.
- Print out bank and investment account statements from the past 30 days.
- Compile your previous addresses and current landlords contact information.

5. Research mortgages

- Request quotes from multiple lenders and comparison shop for loans.
- Get pre-qualified for a loan (many seller's WILL NOT consider an offer unless you are pre-qualified).
- Obtain a pre-approval letter which requires credit check and can make you a strong candidate (many real estate agents WILL NOT take you to view homes and cannot submit your offer to purchase a home without a pre-approval letter from your lender and proof of funding).

6. Assemble your team

- Now that you have secured and established your means of purchasing your home, let us get started in finding your new home.

Contact Toi at 310-684-3811

Must Have	Nice to Have	Someday
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



Toi Holliday, REALTOR
CalDRE# 02018834

W: www.ToiHolliday.com | E: Homes@ToiHolliday.com
T: (310) 684-3811 C: (310) 270-5968

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Call today to get started and be connected with a lending expert!