

# JULY



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## HOMEOWNERS' ADVICE



## SIX TIPS FOR BETTER LISTING PHOTOS

Whether or not you use a professional photographer, here are 6 tips to make your listing photos look great.

**Stage the shoot:** Move the car & kids' toys out of sight. Power-wash the front and sweep the walk. Mow, prune & weed the yard.

**Notice details.** The camera captures everything in equal detail, so look out for random coffee cups, crooked wall art, and cluttered surfaces & straighten your walk-in closet to ensure personal effects are out of sight.

**Clean.** Make your floors gleam. Wipe fingerprints and grease from your appliances so they look showroom-new. Clean the carpets & polish the furniture.

**Amp up the lighting.** Pick a sunny day for the shoot. Open shutters, blinds & curtains. Replace old lightbulbs, clean ceiling fixtures & turn on the lights.

Accent special features. Celebrate the built-in bookcases, mullion windows, & window seats, too. Also, include shots of any improvements or updates.

Pretend you're the buyer. Remove excess furniture,& personal items.

Whether you are looking to buy or sell, I can offer the highest levels in real estate expertise. Expect Exceptional.

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### **MOVING WITH PETS**

Moving can be as challenging for your pets as for the rest of the family, but preparation and patience can help your dog, rabbit, bird or cat adjust more easily to its new home.

**Tell your veterinarian.** Update your pet's medical records and microchip data with your new address, but if you're moving out of the area, ask your vet to forward this information to your new veterinarian.

**Manage stress.** Think about your pet's stress levels as well as your own, as they can be alarmed by changes in routine. A squawking parrot, nosy cat or clingy puppy can lead to frayed nerves and possible accidents if they're underfoot. The best solution is to board your pet for moving day.

**Include pets on outings to the new home.** Before move-in, take your dog along for a nice sniff around the property, possibly during the inspection or final walk-through. It will help accustom the pet to the new home a little more quickly.

**Take time to play.** Remember to cuddle, play and talk to them as usual. Let your cat jump in empty boxes, toss the ball for your dog, and bring your bird to a perch in the room you're packing.

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