
Buyer's Guide

Buying a home in Toronto and the GTA is one of the biggest decisions you will make. This guide gives you a clear, step-by-step path — so you move with confidence and avoid the costly surprises that catch many buyers off guard.

01 Get pre-approved first

A pre-approval tells you exactly what you can afford and holds your rate while you shop. It also makes your offer far stronger when it counts.

| *Know the difference between pre-qualification (an estimate) and pre-approval (a verified commitment).*

02 Define your must-haves

Separate needs from wants before you tour.

- Location, commute and transit access.
- Property type and size for your next five years and beyond.
- Schools, amenities and future resale.

03 Understand the full cost

Your purchase price is only part of the picture. Budget for:

- Down payment and, if under 20%, mortgage default insurance.
- Ontario land transfer tax — plus the additional Toronto municipal LTT inside the city.
- Legal fees, home inspection, appraisal and moving costs.

| *First-time buyers may qualify for land transfer tax rebates — ask me to check your eligibility.*

04 Tour smart

Look past the staging. I help you read the bones of a home — layout, light, age of major systems, signs of water and renovation potential.

05 Make a competitive offer

In a multiple-offer market, structure wins. We balance price with deposit, conditions and an irrevocable period that keeps you protected without losing the home.

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06 Inspection and closing

Due diligence protects your investment. After conditions are met, your lawyer manages adjustments and title, and we count down to keys.

BUYER READINESS CHECKLIST

- ☐ Pre-approval in hand and rate held
- ☐ Must-haves and deal-breakers written down
- ☐ Full closing budget, not just the price
- ☐ Lawyer and inspector chosen in advance
- ☐ Deposit funds accessible on short notice
- ☐ Offer strategy agreed before you view

Not sure where you stand? Send me your budget and your must-haves and I will tell you honestly what it buys in the areas you are considering — including when the answer is to wait.

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