



your

HOME



Tips and trends for homeowners, buyers and sellers

How to Help Prepare Your Child for a Move

Moving is a big change, especially for kids. Whether it's across town or across the country, the transition can be emotional. With the right approach, you can ease the stress and help your child feel ready and even excited.

Why It Matters:

- ▶ Helps reduce anxiety
- ▶ Makes them feel involved
- ▶ Builds excitement for what's next



What to Do:

- 1 Talk Early & Often:** Let them know what's happening and keep the conversation open. Validate their feelings.
- 2 Let Them Help:** Include them in packing and let them help plan or decorate their new room.
- 3 Stick to Routines:** Bedtimes, meals and weekend traditions offer stability during change.
- 4 Explore the New Area Together:** Visit parks, schools or fun local spots before the move, if possible.
- 5 Say a Proper Goodbye:** Arrange time to see friends, take photos or make memory books.

5 Eco-Friendly Home Upgrades That Pay Off



Eco-friendly home updates don't just help the planet—they can also lower your bills and boost your home's value. Whether you're planning to sell or just want a more efficient space, these upgrades deliver real impact.

Why Go Green:

- Cuts down energy and water usage
- Improves indoor air quality
- Adds value without major renovation

Smart Upgrades to Consider:

- 1. Install LED Bulbs:** They last longer and use less power than traditional bulbs.
- 2. Add Low-Flow Fixtures:** Save water with efficient showerheads, faucets and toilets.
- 3. Use Low-VOC Paint:** Fewer chemicals mean cleaner air, especially in bedrooms and nurseries.
- 4. Seal and Insulate:** Weather stripping, attic insulation and window film keep your home comfortable year-round.
- 5. Choose ENERGY STAR Appliances:** Upgrade to efficient models that reduce energy use and look sleek in any kitchen.

Pro Tip:

You don't have to go all in at once. Even one or two eco-friendly upgrades can make a difference—and many qualify for tax credits or rebates.



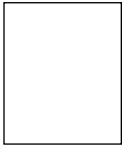
BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR AGENT, A CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL SPECIALIST





DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS THINKING ABOUT BUYING OR SELLING A HOME? PLEASE MENTION MY NAME.

This newsletter is for informational purposes only and should not be substituted for legal or financial advice. If you are currently working with another real estate agent or broker, it is not a solicitation for business.



BETH BROCKETTE | KATIE RECK

319-551-8692 | 319-327-7992
BrocketteHomes@RuhlHomes.com
BrocketteHomes.com

Licensed to Sell Real Estate in Iowa



Ruhl&Ruhl REALTORS | Cedar Rapids, IA



Tips and trends for homeowners, buyers and sellers

5 Easy Ways to Get Your Bathroom Open-House Ready

A clean, inviting bathroom can boost your home's appeal in an open house. It shows buyers the space is well cared for and move-in ready. The good news? A few simple updates go a long way.

Why It's Worth It:

- Shows buyers your home is move-in ready
- Boosts the perception of cleanliness and value
- Adds subtle luxury with simple upgrades

Try These Tips:

- 1 Scrub Everything**
Sparkling tile, fixtures and grout make the whole room feel fresh.
- 2 Clear the Clutter**
Remove personal items like razors, toothbrushes and excess products.
- 3 Swap in Stylish Touches**
Think fresh towels, a neutral shower curtain and a matching rug or mat.
- 4 Update Fixtures**
Even small changes—like new drawer pulls or a faucet—can modernize the space.
- 5 Light It Up**
Brighten with clean, white bulbs and polished light fixtures.

Pro Tip:

Add greenery or a candle for a fresh, cozy touch. A well-staged bathroom shows buyers your home has been lovingly maintained—right down to the details.



iStock.com/runner10



Buying or selling a home can seem like an overwhelming task. A Certified Residential Specialist (CRS) can make the process easier—and more profitable. A CRS, with years of experience and success, will help you make smart decisions in a fast-paced, complex and competitive marketplace.

To earn the CRS Designation, residential real estate specialists must demonstrate outstanding professional achievements—including high-volume sales—and pursue advanced training in areas such as finance, marketing and technology. Contact your CRS today!