# HOW BUYING A HOME WORKS



### **PARTNER WITH AN AGENT**

- Absorb their local insight
- Get to know neighborhood inventory levels
  - See what's about to hit the market
  - Gain access to off-market properties
  - Review market averages
  - Complete needs assessment

### 2 GET PRE-APPROVED FOR A LOAN

- Understand what you can afford
  - Determine your monthly mortgage payment
  - Understand your debt ratio
- Prepare for escrow
- Obtain a pre-approval letter



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# 3 FIND YOUR NEW HOME

- Compare home and neighborhood averages, then narrow down the neighborhoods you want to live in
  - Favorite homes and save them to collections
  - Nix homes that don't meet the mark
  - Schedule home tours and plan an itinerary with your agent
  - Decide on your dream home

# 4 MAKE YOUR OFFER AND NEGOTIATE THE TERMS

- Review contract terms and time limit for offer
  - Negotiate purchase price
  - Choose a title company
  - Shop home insurance options
  - Prepare for down payment, earnest money
  - Choose a target closing date
  - Sign the offer
  - Deliver escrow check
  - Stay in close contact with your agent



### 5 UNDER CONTRACT

- Secure a home loan\*more details to follow
- Acquire home insurance and send proof to your lender. Keller Covered streamlines finding the best insurance to fit your needs
- Request a list of what conveys with the property
- Schedule home inspection and negotiate repairs
- Acquire a property disclosure from the seller
- Order an appraisal
- Neutralize contingencies. Input any contingencies that may be specific to your area
- Conduct a title search
- Choose your title company
- Schedule your closing
- Solidify both contract effective and allowable move-in dates
- Certify funds for closing
- Stay in close contact with your agent, lender, and title company

### **6** BEFORE YOU CLOSE

- Transfer funds for closing
- Reserve a moving company and set a moving date
- Change your address through USPS, your bank, and other instances
- Set up your utilities to be activated or transferred
- Confirm that all contigencies are resolved
- Schedule the final property walk-through
- Designate a safe, dedicated space to save your final paperwork
- Stay in close contact with your agent, lender, and title company

# 7 CLOSING DAY: WHAT TO BRING

- Connect with your lender to wire down payment funds. You'll need to cover the cost of closing and the down payment. Bring a printed confirmation of your wire transfer
- Government-issued Photo ID(s)
- Social Security numbers
- Home addresses from the last 10 years
- Proof of homeowner's insurance
- Your copy of the contract
- Your checkbook

#### **8** CLOSING DAY

- Sign closing disclosure, promissory note, and all other documentation
  - Title transfer
  - Deed delivery
- Save your paperwork in your pre-designated spot
- Get your keys congrats, it's all yours!

Stay in touch with your agent for current or future recommendations regarding your new home.

Use the Guide feature in my app to find step-by-step, on-demand information throughout your purchase.