

Staging Strategies for Kitchens

By Erica Starich

When buyers are looking at houses, the kitchen is typically a priority room. Even if a complete remodel isn't quite in the picture, there are some simple staging strategies that will help any kitchen show its best.

Top Five Staging Strategies for Kitchens

1) Clean – everything!

-don't forget the oven (and burners), the sink, inside cabinets and drawers, outside of cabinets, above cabinets, glass cabinet fronts, inside the refrigerator, and flooring - and make any necessary repairs

2) Hide - trash can, scatter rugs, pet dishes

-hide just about everything to show as much space as possible – especially those items that may create unwanted smells including wash cloths and dirty dishes

3) Countertops - clear off, display no more than one appliance

-whether you have a little or a lot - show it off, bring in a nice punch of color with a bowl of fresh lemons/limes/apples

4) Refrigerator - remove all art and magnets

-or hide a few key items on the side of the refrigerator so they are not seen when entering the room, also clear the top of the refrigerator

5) Cabinets - update/replace hardware

-replacing or adding hardware is one of the easiest ways to update the kitchen, and painting cabinets is another cost effective option to altogether replacing them