

## No Homes for Sale in the Area You Like? Here's What to Do...

Imagine there's a neighbourhood you'd love to live in someday, but, every time you drive through, you rarely, if ever, see a For Sale sign. It's as if homes get gobbled up by buyers the moment they get listed.

It's true, properties do tend to sell quickly in desirable, in-demand neighbourhoods. Does that mean you're destined to either hope for a lucky break or miss out on ever living there?

Fortunately, no. There are practical things you can do to increase your chances of getting into that neighbourhood.

Your first step is to find out the kind of new home you can afford. You want to get your financial ducks in a row so when a listing does come up in the area, you're able to respond quickly. Find out the average price range of homes in the neighbourhood. Then, if necessary, talk to your lender or mortgage broker.

The second step is to get your current property ready for sale. You don't necessarily need to list it now, but you want to be in a position to do so quickly, if necessary. You may need to clean up and declutter, get repairs done, and spruce up your home in other ways.

The third step is to talk to me.



You see, listings in popular neighbourhoods often move fast. By the time you see them advertised on the internet, they may be gone. I can closely monitor listings in that area for you, so the moment one comes up that meets your criteria, you can be alerted. This greatly increases your chances of getting that home.

So if there is a dream neighbourhood you'd love to get into, give me a call.

## Painting Techniques that Bring a Hallway to Life

Some people don't give hallways much thought when painting and decorating. Instead, they focus on rooms.

The fact is, a great looking hallway can have the same, if not more, impact than the most eye-catching family room or bedroom, especially when you need to go through the hallway to get there!

Here are some painting tips that can bring a dull hallway to life:

- Paint the hallway the reverse of the rooms around it. If the rooms are dark, use light colours in the hall. If the rooms feature simple colours, consider being more dramatic in your choice of hallway paint.
- In a longer hallway, using two shades of the same colour on perpendicular walls can make the space seem less tunnel-like. (The darker shade goes on the shorter walls.)

- Darker colours can work well if the space is well-lit and there are few, if any, shadows cast.
- If you decide to paint the halls white, select an off-white or eggshell white. Avoid stark white as it will reflect light in a way that's unpleasant.

One more tip: Pictures can go a long way in making a hallway look inviting, regardless of the wall colour.

Good luck with the painting!

## Think, Act... Live!

"Failure doesn't mean you're a failure, it just means you haven't succeeded yet." Robert Schuller

"Dream and give yourself permission to envision a You that you choose to be." Joy Page

"Experience is simply the name we give to our mistakes." Oscar Wilde