

PART 2: Must Do's... Necessities... Getting Your Hands Dirty

DECLUTTER

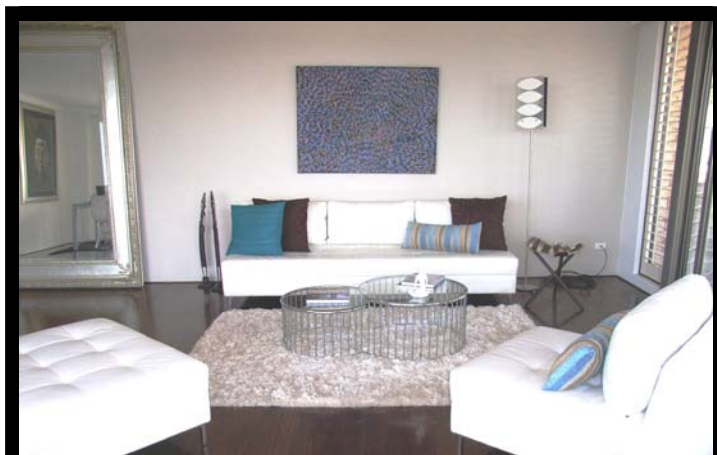
DELETE EXCESS BAGGAGE!

Your Life Will Be Enhanced

You are selling your home for a reason.

- You have grown out of this home and you need more space or rooms for your growing family.
- You are a professional and you can afford a larger more expensive property.
- You are an 'empty nester', your children have grown up and left the nest and you want to scale down to a smaller house on one level for the future or apartment with less maintenance.
- You have found your next partner and you are moving in with them.

Whatever the reason, ultimately you are going to have to pack up this property and make the move. So, don't leave packing and organizing your move to the last minute when you are tipping drawers into boxes.



14: Open but symmetrical seating with good use of a mirror

De-cluttering and organizing yourself is twofold. You end up compacting your belongings to what you love, need and use. Your home looks like it belongs to a meticulous clean and organized non consumer which we all aspire to being.

By ridding yourself of what you don't need or use or even particularly like you are freeing yourself to attract?????..... abundance. Of what? Of everything or anything you're looking for. This is so important in the Eastern religions and Feng Shui. This can be so fulfilling and rewarding. Imagine going into your Kitchen Utensils drawer and actually seeing exactly what you have in the drawer because you've kept only one of three potato mashers. When you go to your bathroom cupboard to moisturize your body and have one bottle to choose from because you decided to use up your nearly empty, half empty and your travel bottles.



15: De-clutter and attract more.....everything!

I'm not just asking you to toss everything out. There are many ways of getting unwanted, unused bits and pieces out of your environment.

- There is 'the skip' or large garbage bin!
- There is donating to the less fortunate, the linen that you haven't used for years and the towels that have been in the back of the cupboard for years because you've bought or been given new ones that look better.
- There is giving to your children or friend's children that are moving out of home for the first time and are grateful of anything they can get.
- There is the wonderful 'eBay' where your junk is someone else's treasure. There is money to be made here. That old stereo that is sitting in the garage, trust me someone wants it and wants to pick it up and take it away and give you cash. That outdated fax machine is a winner. The kids push bikes. That old set of golf clubs. If you are not 'auction website' savvy, there are people out there that put your 'stuff' on the internet to sell and they receive a percentage of the sale for their effort.

To sort through everything and decide what you are keeping and what is going, remember where you are going and what you will really need when you get there. Do you really want all those clear drinking glasses that originally were a set of 8 and now you have one or two left.

By relieving yourself of all the unnecessary items that surround you that don't give your life any joy or are there for any purpose you will feel that a weight has been lifted from your shoulders. You can see clearly. You are ready to completely let go of your old life in your home and ready for your new fabulous adventure in your new home and new 'de-cluttered state'.

Along with ridding yourself of all the 'bits and pieces' you have accumulated, for all intensive purposes I need you to depersonalize your home for the new prospective buyers. This means packing up your collection of frog figurines, frog salt and pepper shakers, frog door stoppers, frog, you get the idea. Not just quirky collections but your paperback books that you would never part with because you are an avid reader, but are crowding the built in bookshelves beside the fireplace. These need to be packed up and stored outside of your property, at a friends or in a hired storage facility.

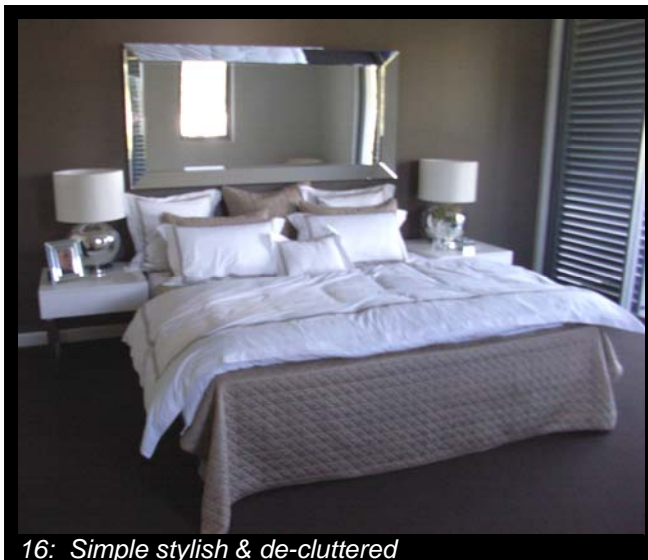
I'm a big fan of family photos in the right rooms of the home. Bedrooms. Cluster your best and pack the rest. By having too many personal pieces throughout your home, buyers tend to feel that they are invading someone's domain instead of relaxing and spending time evaluating their life in this new home.

When packing your personal items, or collections away it doesn't mean you are never going to see them again, just not until you get to decorate your new home with your old memorabilia. This includes anything to do with your religion or your political preferences. You may have very strong beliefs and have artifacts and wall hangings associated with those beliefs. By packing them away for the 'Open For Inspection' period doesn't mean you are denying your way of life, just that you are welcoming people of all persuasions to be welcomed into your home and be bowled over with the property with no distractions.

I cannot stress how important for the sale of your home and for you personally, it is to rid yourself of anything and everything that you don't **LOVE, USE OR NEED!**

Love: Love is love. You look at the figurine and you can easily say, 'I love this figurine'. Love is love!

Use: Use is use. You use the item often. You use the one lawn mower. You have kept the other lawn mower because it still works. Not well. Not like your new (well 12 months old now), lawn mower but the old one still works. And what if you buy a holiday home, you could always put the old lawn mower there. Nope! Ditch it! Sell it on eBay! Give it to your newly married daughter! Put it in the garage sale ... whatever but it goes!



16: Simple stylish & de-cluttered

I haven't finished with 'use' yet! That old stereo in the basement that the kids would use when their friends came over. Yes I know it still works. Oh you would listen to it if you went down into the basement to get away from it all. When was the last time you did that? It's gone! It's been sold and made you money to buy fresh fluffy new towels for your bathroom styling.

Need: This is a tough one. Basically you don't need anything that you don't love or use.