

Creating a Positive First Impression for Quick Sale

The front entrance of your home is a key part of the "First Impression." To make sure you create a positive impression:

- Paint, clean or stain the front door. Remove old screens if they don't fit or operate properly.
- Make sure entry light and doorbell are in working order.
- Replace missing house numbers and/or polish or paint the old ones.
- Replace that worn out welcome mat with a new colorful and welcoming mat. Add a potted plant if you have room.
- Repaint or replace mailbox.
- Remove dead limbs and debris from shrubs and trees.
- Plant extra flowers for more color or spruce up landscaping with potted flowers.



More Curb Appeal

Freshen up the outsides of your home with these 3 easy tips:

- 1. Clean the gutters.** It's easier to scoop up the leaves and debris in your gutters when the stuff is wet, so pull out your ladder and clean the gutters after a soaking rain. You should do this at least twice a year, but may need to do it monthly if your home is surrounded by trees.
- 2. Mulch garden beds.** By the end of the month, the ground has thawed in many parts of the country and it's time to start warding off weeds. If you didn't mulch in early winter, now is the time to add a layer to discourage weeds.
- 3. Prune ornamental grasses.** Clean up pampas grass and other ornamental grasses by cutting them in early spring, before new green shoots get tall. Cut the old grass about 2 to 4 inches above the new green shoots. Cut straight across the top of the clump and rake away the dead stalks to clean up the plant.



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