By following these instructions, you'll be making the property more presentable and greatly increasing the chance of obtaining high-quality photos for subsequent marketing purposes.

The first step is to determine which areas should be photographed. The most important spaces are commonly the living room, kitchen, bathroom, and master bedroom. Garages and laundry-rooms are seldom photographed, unless they are both tidy and particularly presentable.

It may, in fact, be a good idea to use the laundry-room, storage, or garage to temporarily store things that you'd prefer not to be visible in your photos. If that's not feasible, however, then an alternative solution is to choose a room to use for temporary storage and photograph that space last (after then having removed the aforementioned items).

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General Tips

- Carefully consider the lighting. Make sure that natural light enters the rooms by opening curtains and/or shades. Turn on all electric lights.
- Bear in mind that rugs and mats may make a space appear smaller, so it's a good idea to remove them.
- Limit or remove entirely outdoor garments and shoes from the entryway.
- Remove any unnecessary items from the floor, including pet-related accessories, toys, wastebaskets, etc.
- Make sure that all electronic screens and ceiling fans are turned off.
- Try to conceal, if possible, cables that connect electronic equipment or electrical lights.

Kitchen

- Remove items from the refrigerator door(s), including magnets, pictures, and/or memos.
- Remove smaller items from the kitchen counter(s). However, leaving some larger equipment on display, such as a toaster, mixer and/or coffeemaker, is a good idea.
- Remove washing-up liquid, kitchen brushes, drying rack, and rags.
- Remove paper-towels rolls.
- Make sure to wipe clean shiny surfaces, including the oven, stove top, and refrigerator.
- Remove all items from the top of the cupboard(s).
- Make sure to arrange chairs uniformly around the kitchen table.

Bathroom/WC

- Remove all visible products from the cabinets, bath, and shower, such as shampoo bottles, toothbrushes, razors, and hairdryer. It may, however, be a nice touch to leave on display two or three attractive bottles of perfume, a small plant, or candle.
- Make sure to clean mirrors, avoiding smudges.
- Clean the shower glass partition.
- Pull back the shower curtain, if applicable.
- Remove towels from the towel warmer, as well as bathmats.
- Folded towels may be visible on the countertop or towel rack.

Bedroom

- Ideally, the bed should have a cover. If that's unavailable, however, then make sure to use matching bed linen.
- Remove everything from the nightstand(s), except perhaps a single book or lamp.
- Remove visible clothing from hooks and/or racks.
- Take down any items that may be on top of the wardrobe.
- Firmly close all wardrobe and cabinet doors.
- Make sure that all lamps are turned on.

Living Room / Dining Room

- Sometimes removing chairs and/or other items in these areas will make them appear more expansive. The photographer will make such suggestions if this is relevant.
- If there is a fireplace, make sure to start a fire just before the photographer arrives.
- Remove remote controls and turn off the television.
- Arrange the chairs nicely. A good rule of thumb is to never have a chair at the ends of the table, as this appears to close off the space in the photograph.
- Limit the number of pillows. One or two pillows on a sofa should be plenty.

Outdoors

- Tidy up the garden and driveway/entryway. Remove any superfluous items, such as toys, bicycles, and/or gardening tools.
- Make sure that the garden hose is coiled, and the garden furniture neatly arranged.
- During the summer, mow the lawn. If there's snow during the winter, make sure that the pathway to the property has been cleared.
- Move cars and other movable items from the driveway to ensure that the property is fully visible.
- Move outdoor trash cans out of sight if they're loose and visible at the front of the property.