

Elemental Photography
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Preparing your house for photographs

A neat uncluttered home is the basic requirement for any successful shoot . If your home looks good it photographs well. It is important that your house is ready before the arrival of the photographer as some are temperamental in nature (not really they are all sweet) but they do not have time to tidy or re-organise your house for you . Here are a couple of pointers to make sure your house is photo-ready.

Interiors

- Close windows and adjust window coverings so they are all the same.
- Emphasize the features of your home – try to feature one focal point in each room.
- Try to make all your rooms look as spacious and neat as possible.
- Declutter, less is more – remove distracting items like tea towels and magnets on the fridge; remove clutter from bookshelves, fireplace mantles, coffee tables, bedrooms, kids' rooms, kitchen, and anywhere else photographs will be taken.
- Turn on all lights, replace burnt out lightbulbs – try to avoid mixing lightbulb types as they cast different colour light.
- Conceal garbage and recycle containers.
- Remove all signs of pets including food/water bowls, pet beds, chew toys, crates, etc.
- Clear bathroom counter tops, lower toilet lids, and put out clean towels.
- Empty shower or tub of soaps, shampoos, shaving items, caddies, etc.
- Remove valuables and medications.

Exteriors

- Remove vehicles from the driveway and away from the front of the property.
- Hide your garbage and green bin in the garage (if you have one) and keep your garage door closed.
- De-clutter your front and back lawn, putting away garden hoses, toys, brooms, shovels, etc.
- Clean up all pet waste.
- Trim hedges and lawn.
- Open umbrellas, set up lawn furniture before the photographer arrives.

During the shoot

- Please make sure you have turned all the lights on and removed your vehicles from the driveway.
- Please make sure the house is tidy before the photographer arrives, photographers have a set amount of time to photograph a property.
- Make sure your pets and children have a place to go while the house is being shot. If you have a place where you want to sit while the house is being shot tell the photographer and he/she can shoot it first /last it may be easier to arrange to-do something fun and leave the house to the photographer and your realtor.