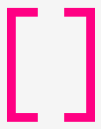
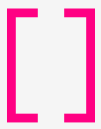


When is the Right Time to Buy a Home?



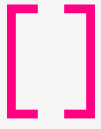
TAKE AN INVENTORY OF YOUR FINANCES

Mortgage lenders use a qualification ratio of your monthly expenses and debt divided by your gross income. A ratio of 36% or less is a good goal.



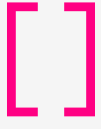
START SAVING

We recommend having at least 5-20% set aside for a downpayment. The more you put down, the lower your payments will be and it will help you avoid paying for private mortgage insurance.



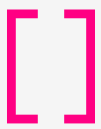
THINK ABOUT IF YOU'RE REALLY READY TO OWN A HOME

It may seem like a silly question, but it's a life changing commitment and often there are a lot of outside influences at play.



RESEARCH THE PROCESS

While you'll definitely learn "as you go" for some of it, having a good understanding of the overall process will help a ton so that you're not surprised by anything.



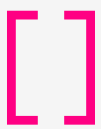
CHAT WITH A LENDER

Some people start touring homes before understanding what they're working with financially. Instead, start with a lender, so you know how much you can afford to begin with.



FIND A GREAT REAL ESTATE AGENT

Once you're pre-approved for a mortgage, connect with a real estate agent to begin your search.



SECURE YOUR FINANCING

You've found your dream home, and it's ready for go-time! At this point you'll check back in with your lender and begin the closing process.

