

Good To Know

Dream Home Athens Tips & Guides

Prepare to Buy a Home

Talk to mortgage brokers

Many first-time home buyers do not take the time to get prequalified. They also often do not take the time to shop around to find the best mortgage for their situation. It is important to ask plenty of questions and make sure you understand the home loan process completely.

Be ready to move

This is especially true in markets with a low inventory of homes for sale. It is common for home buyers to miss out on the first home they wish to purchase because they do not act quickly enough. By the time they have made their decision, they may find that someone else has already purchased the house.

Find a trusted partner

It is vital that you find a real estate professional who understands your goals and who is ready and able to guide you through the home buying process.

Make a good offer

Remember that your offer is very unlikely to be the only one on the table. Do what you can to ensure it is appealing to a seller.

Factor maintenance and repair costs into your buying budget

Even brand-new homes will require some work. Do not leave yourself short and let your home deteriorate.

Think ahead

It is easy to get wrapped up in your present needs, but you should also think about reselling the home before you buy. The average first-time buyer expects to stay in a home for around 10 years, according to the National Association of REALTORS®' 2013 Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers.

Develop your home/neighborhood wish list

Prioritize these items from most important to least.

Select where you want to live

Compile a list of three or four neighborhoods you would like to live in, considering nearby schools, recreational facilities, area expansion plans, and safety.