

# BASIC STEPS TO BUYING A HOME

By: Maleno Real Estate



1

## SELECT A LOAN OFFICER

Consider three different institutions and select the loan officer right for you. A few things to take with you are recent tax returns, banks statements, and paycheck records.



2

## CALCULATE YOUR LOAN

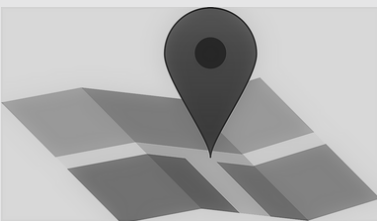
Determine how much home you can afford, including the down payment, closing costs (which are more than you think), and annual property taxes.



3

## SECURE PRE-APPROVAL

Have a copy of your pre-approval letter in hand throughout your home buying process. This proves you have the buying power--and also helps guide you and your agent with homes in your price range.



4

## LOCATION, LOCATION

Do your research. Know what you're looking for in a neighborhood and then research those that fit your criteria. School districts, commuting distance, and crime are a few things you might consider. Don't forget about re-sale someday!



5

## FIND A GOOD REALTOR

Talk with two or three real estate brokers or agents before selecting the one right for you. Consider the number of years' experience, average price listings, and online reviews. Does your agent/broker get involved in their local association? Are they staying current on the constant changes going on within the industry?



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## LOCK IT IN

Once you find the home that's right for you, work with your broker/agent to write a strong contract. Hire an inspector to check out the property, negotiate repairs if needed, secure homeowners insurance, schedule the closing, and move in. Welcome home!