

7

INSIDER SECRETS TO SELLING YOUR HOME

WITHOUT
SPENDING A LOT
OF TIME OR
MONEY

The industry's best kept secrets to selling your
home quickly and easily



DEAR HOME SELLER,

You are considering selling your property but you are not sure where to start? Does the thought of listing your home and getting it show-ready stress you out?

My name is Alain Dussault, I am committed to making your home selling experience as painless and stress-free as possible. I have been helping homeowners all across the Outaouais in selling their home quickly, easily, and at the highest possible price.

To get you started, I have created a list of the industry's best-kept secrets to prepare your home to sell quickly for top dollar without any stress.

So sit back and relax. I'm here to help.

Your Journey Towards Getting

BEST VALUE For Your Home Begins Here

Sincerely,

Alain Dussault, Chartered Realtor

Your Greater Outaouais Realtor

Via Capitale Diamant



ALAIN DUSSAULT
COURTIER IMMOBILIER AGRÉÉ

INSIDER SECRET #1:

PRICING IS CRITICAL



When it comes to Outaouais Real Estate, I know what sells and what does not... and often when a property does not sell, the reason is price. Correctly pricing your home is the single most important factor in preparing your home for sale.

Many homeowners are surprised to discover that pricing makes up 75% of the marketing of their listing. This is due to the fact that in most cases, price is what attracts potential buyers to a listing in the first place.

With that in mind, the internet has opened a wealth of information on property sales history and data, so buyers are better informed now more than ever. Some search for months, scouting potential home candidates based on their features, location, and – you guessed it – price.

Buyers know when a home is priced fairly and will make a decision quickly whether it is worth seeing or not. Since it is critical to get it right, here is a look at my top pricing strategies:



PRICING STRATEGY #1:

PRICE AT MARKET VALUE

This is the safest strategy to get a good price and sell quickly. To determine the market value of your home, here are just a few of the things that I consider:

- comparable listings on your street and in your neighborhood
- recent sales of similar properties in your neighborhood and ones nearby
- current market conditions
- the finishes, condition, and size of your home; and
- its location – what is happening in your area now and what is expected to change in the foreseeable future.

PRICING STRATEGY #2:

PRICE BELOW MARKET VALUE AND HOPE FOR A BIDDING WAR

This can be an effective way to generate enough interest in your home so that several buyers will want to make an offer on your home, thus driving up its price.

PROCEED WITH CAUTION...

Pricing your home below market value with the intent of getting multiple offers is primarily effective in a Sellers Market and when there is a limited supply of your type of property for sale.

Rest assured that I will guide you in the appropriate direction when considering this pricing strategy.

A WEEK STRATEGY:

PRICE ABOVE MARKET VALUE AND HOPE FOR THE BEST

There is plenty of evidence out there proving that properties sit on the market because they are priced too high. They also end up getting a lower price than they would have, had they been priced at market value.

A home that is priced above market value will be overlooked by qualified buyers because they realize they can get better value elsewhere.

**Want To Find Out How Much
Your House Is Worth?**

IT MIGHT BE WORTH MORE THAN YOU THINK!

Click here
to get your
**Comparative Market
Analysis**

IT'S 100% FREE



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INSIDER SECRET #2:

CURB APPEAL MATTERS



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You never get a second chance to make a good first impression, so do not underestimate the power of an appealing front exterior. This is the first thing buyers see when visiting your home; make their first impression last.



PRO-TIP

Most people have already made up their minds about your home before they even see the inside. If they see that your lawn is not cut or there are cracks in the windows, they'll assume that you have not taken care of the interior either. The viewer immediately starts calculating the potential costs associated with these items, instead of focusing on the beauty that your home has to offer.

The emotions potential buyers feel when they walk up to your property will follow them throughout their entire viewing experience. To make your prospects fall in love with your house from the first glance, ensure the following:

- ☐ Lawns mowed
- ☐ Patio furniture clean and uncluttered
- ☐ Bicycles, children's toys, etc. stored neatly
- ☐ Driveway and sidewalk clear of debris
- ☐ Trees pruned, hedges trimmed
- ☐ Flower beds weeded and tidy
- ☐ Dead plants replaced

TIP

Note: Having healthy flower beds and plants is a great way to make your home more welcoming, but for some buyers, this means high maintenance.

Consider using flower pots, and plant sparingly, to give the appearance of an easy to maintain landscaped property.

INSIDER SECRET #3:

KITCHENS SELL HOMES



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So you thought you were selling a home? Nope. You are selling a kitchen! The kitchen is the heart of the home and for many buyers, it is what sways them to write up an offer.

If you have an outdated kitchen, don't worry. You do not need to spend a fortune on renovations. A few inexpensive fixes can bring any old kitchen to life.

Consider replacing the hardware on your cabinet doors, installing a new faucet and adding a fresh coat of paint. If your countertop is in desperate need of fixing, a low-cost laminate countertop from Home Depot can make a world of difference. One of the quickest ways to improve your kitchen is simply by decluttering your countertops. I recommend placing all countertop appliances (e.g. blender, toaster) in your cupboards, and removing any counter-top utensils as well. This will give your kitchen a tidy appearance with the impression of more prep space. If your cabinets are in rough shape, take a weekend to paint them to freshen them up.



TIP

If your appliances are outdated and you have the budget, consider replacing just one with a high-end stainless steel appliance. A single high-end appliance will give your buyers the appearance that everything else is high-end too. Please speak with me in regards to cost efficient appliance options.

INSIDER SECRET #4:

LIGHTING DOES WONDERS



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Good lighting sets the mood. Think about it. Have you ever walked into a house and said, "This house is so dark," or "Wow, it's so bright!"? It is just one of those things you notice right away.

Fixing the lighting in your home is one of the easiest and most effective upgrades you can make. Best of all, it does not cost a lot of money and it is a quick fix.

Here are a few things you can do to improve the lighting in your home:

Take down any old dark drapes and clean all of your windows inside and out. Replace all of your light bulbs with higher wattage bulbs using a warm white colour. Cut any overgrown plants outside that might be blocking any sunlight. Replace any old lampshades or add new floor lamps in rooms that are darker. Make sure that all of your lights are working, especially in darker areas like basements, dens and rooms without windows.

TIP

If you want to get fancy, replace your entrance light and hallway ceiling lights with updated fixtures. You don't need to spend a lot of money, but the modern chandelier in the entrance will impress your buyers as soon as they walk in.

INSIDER SECRET #5:

UPDATE – DO NOT RENOVATE



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If you do not have the budget to renovate, focus on simple and inexpensive fixes that you can quickly tackle on your own.

A new coat of paint will go a long way to freshen up and brighten your home. Replacing door handles, cabinet hardware, old light fixtures, yellowed air duct plates and outdated mirrors are all simple updates that are inexpensive and easy to do.

Have any unfinished projects? This is the time to wrap them up and showcase your home at its best. Fix those leaky taps and closet doors that have fallen off their tracks – buyers will check these!

Removing the old dated popcorn ceiling can have a significant impact on your home. Though this is a slightly more advanced project, it is not that difficult. There are plenty of YouTube step-by-step tutorials, [like this one](#) that guide you through achieving a polished, smooth-surfaced ceiling on your own.

Most importantly: Clean, clean, clean! Even an outdated home that is spotless can show really well. Scrub the grout in the bathrooms and remove the cobwebs from the basement. You want to go top to bottom without missing a single spot.



TIP

How a home looks and feels will affect a buyer's perception of how much it is worth. But there is a lot you can do to influence that perception.

Take care of the *small details*, like scuff marks on your walls or dark spots on your carpet, to get top dollar for your home.

INSIDER SECRET #6:

STAGING IS KEY



Did you know that staging your home can potentially increase its value and sell it faster?

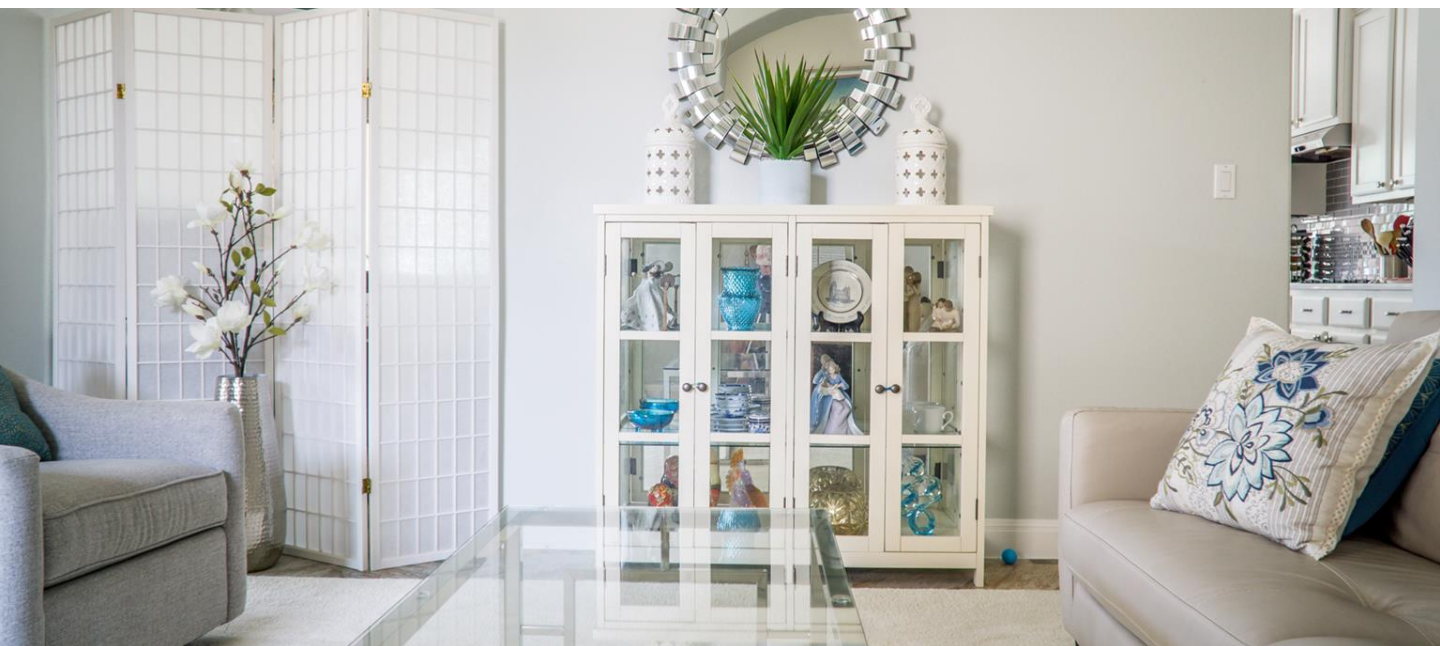
Numerous studies have proven that a staged home will typically spend less time on the market, get more money, and appeal to more buyers.

Yes, hiring a staging company or renting furniture can be costly. But adding visual appeal, warmth, and beauty to your home does not have to be. If you don't have the budget to hire a professional, consider the following:

THE KEY TO STAGING IS DE-PERSONALIZING AND DECLUTTERING.

- ☐ Pack away family pictures, unused toys and religious artifacts. Create a blank canvas for buyers to imagine their belongings in your space.
- ☐ Remove large furniture from small spaces to convey a feeling of openness.
- ☐ Add new pillows & throws to your chairs and beds to add warmth to your living room and bedrooms.
- ☐ Set the dishware and add fresh cut flowers to the dining table to create a welcoming feeling, as well as to help the buyer imagine entertaining in the space.

Staging can help you sell your home faster and possibly even get a higher sale price. If you want to get it listed & sold quickly, staging your home is an important part of the process.



INSIDER SECRET #7:

MARKETING MATTERS



A top priority is making your home visible to potential buyers. An effective marketing plan is crucial.

Online Marketing



A whopping 92% of buyers begin their search for a home online, so being seen on the web is critical. However, listing on the MLS is only half the battle. Make sure your Realtor knows how to use other websites, such as their office or personal website, to your advantage.

A savvy Realtor will also promote his listings to his network of other Realtors and potential buyers via email or social media accounts.

Exposing your home to as many online avenues as possible will increase your chances of bringing traffic to your listing, which in turn could mean a higher sale price.

Great Photography



It pains me to see photos of a home that have clearly been taken by a Realtor using their phone's camera. Too many times I have noticed blurry shots or bad lighting.

Since the majority of buyers will see your home for the first time online, you need photos that will capture their attention.

That means photography at angles that highlight your home's best features. A professional Realtor realizes that it is better to have a few fantastic shots rather than a bunch of poor ones just for the sake of adding pictures to your listing.

Print Marketing



Your agent should print feature sheets of your home so that any potential buyers who see it will have information and specs to take away.

Open Houses

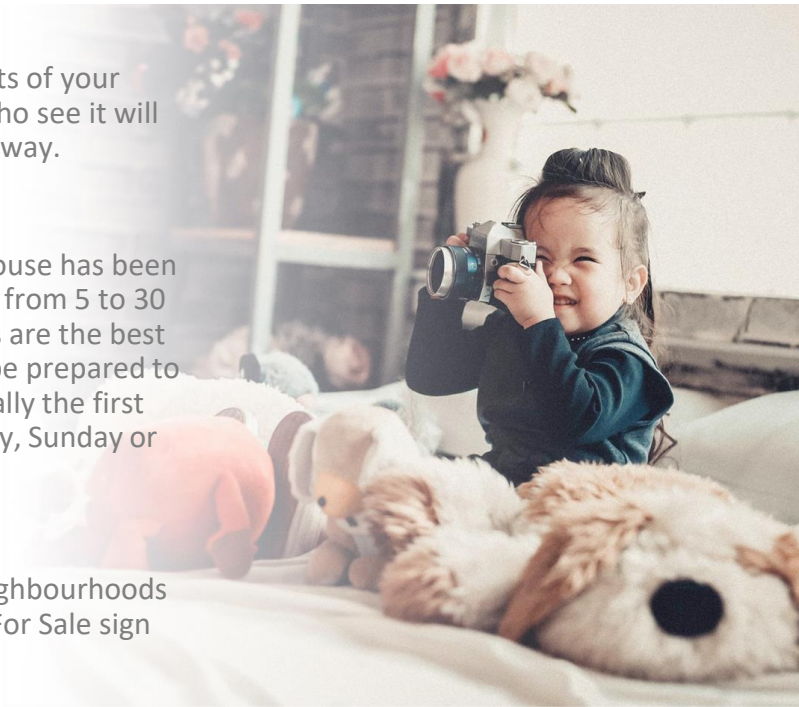


Depending on how well your open house has been promoted, you can expect anywhere from 5 to 30 or more people to attend. Weekends are the best days to bring in the most guests, so be prepared to leave your home for 2-4 hours – usually the first weekend after it's listed - on Saturday, Sunday or both days.

For Sale Signs



Buyers tend to check their target neighbourhoods in search of their dream home, so a For Sale sign on the lawn is always recommended



BONUS SECRET:

CHOOSE THE RIGHT REALTOR



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Do not put your biggest financial asset at risk by selling with the wrong Realtor. Make sure to choose the right one.

THE RIGHT REALTOR WILL:

Work around your schedule

My focus in my professional life is to give the best of myself 100% of the time. I am dedicated to fulfilling your needs, answering your questions and focusing my full attention on your transaction. As a Realtor, my time is committing to insure that your goal is achieved by offering my unmatched experience in obtaining top value for your property. When you list your home with me, you not only get excellence, but passion for the business and the task at hand.

Set realistic expectations

The average time to sell a property in Outaouais is 20-30 days, so do not stress if your home has not sold in the first week. A good Realtor will give you honest feedback about the condition of your home, even if it is not what you want to hear. They will keep you fully informed about market activity and competition so you can properly prepare yourself for likely outcomes.



A STRESS-FREE SELLING EXPERIENCE



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When it comes to selling your home in the Outaouais area. I've got you covered. I target your demographic and reach out to your buyers.

If you would like to get to know me more, the feeling is mutual. Feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Alain Dussault

Office: 819 684-7000

Mobile: 613 720-6220

www.VenduVite.ca

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Here's what past clients had to say:

“Selling my home required the expertise of a competent and skilled agent. Alain exceeded my expectations and was able to sell my home at a higher price than I anticipated.” - Teresa P.

“Alain streamlined the selling process by helping us properly prepare our house for sale. He gave us his personal cell # to call/text him directly, as well as regular updates on showings, feedback, marketing activity, and competition. Best of all - he sold our house in just 3 days!” – Steven and Amelia R.

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MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR LATEST LISTINGS

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