

6 THINGS TO DO WHILE TOURING OPEN HOUSES



1

Ask Questions!

Why is the home on the market? How long has it been on the market? How much time do the owners need to move out? Are there other interested parties?

2

Be Prepared

Chances are, you will be visiting many homes. How do you remember all you've seen? Bring a notebook. Use your smartphone to take pictures to capture the essentials.

3

Look Closely at the House not the Decor

Open homes are staged to be appealing to buyers. Look past the fancy furnishings and focus on the basics. What condition are the walls in? Floors? Roof? Are there traces of water damage? What do the pipes look like under the sink?

4

Don't Overlook the Exterior

Keep your eyes peeled for any maintenance issues. Look for cracks in the siding and foundation. Look to the roof and note if there are missing shingles or the gutters are loose. Does it look like you may need to replace the roof in the next few years?

5

Get to Know the Neighbourhood

Is the neighbourhood a good fit with your lifestyle and family? Is it quiet? Vibrant? Are the amenities you need in the area? Do the schools have a good reputation? Look at the neighbours houses - do they own dogs? Do they care for their property?

6

Go With Your Instincts

If the house you're touring doesn't feel like "home" the first time through, it probably never will. Trust your instincts. If you have decided to take the next step in the buying process, talk to a real estate professional for advice and to guide you through the process.

