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From your local
**REAL ESTATE
EXPERT**

FEBRUARY



TOP TIPS FOR CREATING YOUR

“Home Wish List”

Are you looking to move in the near future? One of the key elements when moving to a new home is to know what you are looking for! To help you do just that, let's take a look at a list of questions that will help ensure you find the RIGHT home for you.

- What do you like best about your home?
- What do you like the least?
- Do you like the style of your home? If not, is there an architectural style or era you prefer?
- What's your favorite room, and what makes spending time there pleasant?
- Do you have enough space? Where could you use more/less space?
- How would you describe the layout? Does it suit your lifestyle?
- Do you have enough bedrooms? Bathrooms?
- Do you like the number of levels (single or multi-level)?
- Are you happy with the windows (enough natural light, well-placed, too sunny)?
- Is there a specialized room you've never had but have always wanted (such as a home office, workout room, sewing room, laundry room, or mudroom)?
- If you have an outdoor space, do you enjoy spending time there? If you don't have one, do you feel like you're missing out?
- Do you enjoy taking care of a yard... or feel burdened by it (be honest!)?
- Do you have sufficient parking? Is a garage or carport a must-have?

Now, use those answers to make two lists. List #1 is the “Must Have” list — those things that you are unwilling or unable to compromise on. As the name suggests, you **MUST HAVE** them!

List #2 is the things that you would **LIKE** to have, but if the home you are looking at doesn't have that feature, it won't kill the deal if it contains all the features on your “Must Have” list.

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Valentine's

DOUBLE CHOCOLATE BARK



Ingredients:

4 oz white chocolate, chopped

8 oz bittersweet chocolate, chopped

Sprinkles, sanding sugar, candy hearts and coated chocolates, for toppings

Directions:

1. Bring a small pan with 1 inch of water to a boil over medium-low heat. Place the white chocolate in a small bowl and place over the simmering water. When it is almost halfway melted, remove the bowl from the heat to a towel. Continue to stir with a rubber spatula until completely melted. Set aside. Repeat with the bittersweet chocolate.

2. Pour the bittersweet chocolate onto a parchment-lined rimmed baking sheet and spread to 1/4-inch thick. Use a rubber spatula to drizzle the white chocolate over the bittersweet in zigzags and decorative patterns. Run the tip of a skewer through the chocolate in different directions to make swirls. Sprinkle with the toppings as desired. Refrigerate for about 30 minutes, then break into pieces.

Tips for Maintaining Curb Appeal In Winter

Every homeowner knows that curb appeal is key when it comes to selling your home in summer, but how can you spruce up your home's exterior when it's winter?

1. Update house numbers
2. Add functional lighting to your yard/walkways
3. Update your mailbox
4. Paint your front door
5. Add a bird feeder
6. Install a porch chandelier
7. Create seasonal planter arrangements when there is a lack of flowers



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