

# 5 Step Strategy for Downsizing Your Home

**In our “bigger is better” culture, there’s an expectation that each home should be larger and grander than the last. But life changes like divorce, kids leaving for college, or even the simple act of growing older can prompt us to find a smaller home that better suits our shifting needs and lifestyle.**

Whatever your reasons are for downsizing, the process can seem overwhelming. That’s why we’ve outlined five steps to guide you on your journey. And in the end, we hope you’ll find that less is more ... more comfort, more security, and more time and energy to spend on the activities and the people that you love.



## 5 STEPS TO DOWNSIZING SUCCESS

### 1. Determine Your Goals and Limitations

The first step is to figure out your goals and limitations for your new living environment. Do you want to live closer to family? Are you hoping to cut down on home maintenance? Do you need access to medical care? In the case of divorce, are there child-custody issues you need to take into account?

Make a “wish list” of features and prioritize them from most to least important. If you’d like any assistance with this process, give us a call! We’d be happy to sit down with you for a free consultation. We can also assess the value of your current home so you can set a realistic budget for your new one.



## 2. Find the Perfect New Home

Once you've established your "wish list," we can begin the search for your new home. As local market experts, we know the ins and outs of all the top communities in our area. We can help you determine the neighborhood and type of home that will best fit your wants and needs.

From family neighborhoods to retirement communities, we serve clients in all stages of life. If you or a loved one are in need of extended support, we can also share our knowledge of the local assisted living facilities and help you identify those that offer the optimal level of care. Planning to relocate out of town? We'll refer you to a trusted agent in your target area who can help with your search.

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## 3. Sell Your Current Home

If you're ready to sell your current home, we'll begin the process of preparing to list it as we search for your new one. We have a special interest in helping homeowners who are facing major life transitions, and we offer a full-service real estate experience that aims to remove as much of the stress and hassle of selling your home as possible. We also understand that many of our clients choose to down-size for financial reasons, so we employ preparation tactics and marketing strategies to maximize the potential sales revenue of your home.

## 4. Sort and Pack Your Belongings

Even before you find your new home, you can begin preparing for your move. A smaller home means less space for your furniture and other possessions, so you will need to decide what to keep and what to sell or donate. Focus on eliminating duplicates and anything you don't regularly use. If you have sentimental pieces, family heirlooms, or just useful items you no longer need, think about who in your life would benefit from having them.

## 5. Get Help When You Need It

Moving is stressful in any situation. But if you're downsizing due to health issues or a major life change, it can be an especially tough transition. Seek out friends and family members who can assist with packing and decluttering. If that's not an option, or if you need additional help, consider hiring a full-service moving company or a senior move manager, which is a professional who assists older adults with the physical and emotional aspects of relocation.<sup>1</sup>

## ARE YOU LIVING YOUR BEST LIFE?

If your current home no longer meets your needs, maybe it's time to consider a change. We would love to help you explore your options. Contact us today to schedule a free, no-obligation consultation.

Sources: 1. National Association of Senior Move Managers

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