

# Preparing to Buy a Home: A Conversation Guide



You and your partner may be talking about buying a house, but do you know what he or she is looking for? Does he or she know what you want? Get on the same page by going through these questions before house hunting!



## Where do we want to live?

- Are there specific neighborhoods we want to live in?
- How far are we willing to look outside of those specific neighborhoods?
- Are there any neighborhoods that are not appealing?
- Is it important for the area to be walkable?
- Could you see yourself having concerns about the amount of traffic on our road?
- Would you like a social neighborhood? Is privacy from the neighbors important?



## What kind of house are we looking for?

- Do we want a move-in-ready house?
- Are there any appliances that we can't live without?
- How much storage do we need?
- How much time are we willing to dedicate to cleaning the house and doing yard work?
- Does that fit with the size of the house we want?
- What are the top 3 things I want in a house/yard?



## What can we afford?

- How much can we afford per month on housing?
- Will we need to factor in added costs, i.e. lawn care, trash service, higher utility costs?



## What kind of house will work long term?

Considering our plans for the next five to ten years...

- ...How many bedrooms do we need?
- ...How many bathrooms do we need?
- ...Do we want to host parties at our house? If so, what kind of space do we need?
- ...Do we need to consider school districts? If so, which ones do we want to and/or live in?
- ...Do we need to make considerations for a pet like a fenced in back yard or a place to play?
- ...Are we willing to take on long term home renovations?
- ...Do we need to consider accessibility such as how many stairs or easy entrance?

