

14 Tips for Safer Property Showings

- Obtain information about the buyer prior to setting up a meeting. Call them directly or have them complete a buyers questionnaire. It's very important to know who you are meeting and taking into property.
- Let someone know where you are and who you are with.
- Always knock or ring the doorbell before going into a home. Dogs will bark at this sound but may not with a key turning in the lock (they may think it's their owner coming in).
- Announce "Realtor" when entering an owner-occupied home. Don't alarm anyone who may not have gotten the showing notice.
- Never enter a property alone. If you meet a client at a property, wait for them to show up before you go into the home.

- Remove the key from the door. Take the key out of the front door after you unlock it. Someone else could arrive while you are showing the property.
- Lock the door after entry. Unlock door, open door, enter property, close door — LOCK DOOR behind you. That's the process.
- Never turn your back to a prospect. Don't put yourself in a vulnerable situation.
- **Be careful of trip hazards** Try to spot them before your client does. Sidewalks, paths into homes, loose handrails, etc., are common sources for trips.
- Knock on closed doors before entering the room. There could be a sleeping person or snarling dog in the corner.
- Lock all doors before leaving. Retrace steps and lock all doors, close all sliders, and put that high-tech, sawed-off broom handle back in the track!
- Never give the door key to ANYONE. That includes handing the key to another agent showing property right after you. Return it to the lockbox.
- Try not to show property at dusk and later.
- Never meet an unknown person at a vacant property.

