



## **Sunday Column**

**By Grant Lopez, 2019 Chairman**

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### **Tips for Finding your Next Home**

House hunting, like all types of shopping, is best done when you're well prepared. If you do your homework and know exactly what you're looking for and what you're willing to spend you'll be able to score the perfect home for you. These steps can help you be successful:

1. **Know What You Want**  
Figure out what kind of home you're interested in. Only one story homes? Does it have to be move-in-ready or are you looking for a fixer upper? Determining what your ideal home is will help you be successful.
2. **Research Before House Hunting**  
Looking at homes can be really exciting, but it is important to figure out what you want most in a home before you start searching. Determine what area of town you want to be in, if you need to be in a close proximity to your job, or to your child's school. Use these factors to help you decide which homes you should take the time to see.
3. **Finances**  
Also before looking at homes know what you can afford. Meet with a mortgage lender to figure out what you qualify for. After getting your pre-qualification, sit down and decide on a price you are comfortable spending each month on your mortgage.
4. **Know Your Timeline**  
Are you in a time crunch to move or do you need to wait for your current home to sell? These factors can influence your purchase timeline. Factor in the time needed to buy or sell into your timeline to determine where you stand.
5. **Get a REALTOR®**  
Ask your friends and family for REALTOR® recommendations to help you find the person for you. Do interviews and ask questions that are important to you during the home buying process. Your REALTOR® will be able to help guide you through the home buying process and help look out for your best interests.
6. **Be Flexible**  
Finding a home that is 100% perfect is a big undertaking, so be willing to compromise. Know what features in a home really matter to you and be flexible with the rest. If the paint color isn't to your liking that's okay, it is an easy fix. Remember that minor imperfections shouldn't make or break your decision.

For more information on buying, selling, or leasing your home visit [SABOR.com](http://SABOR.com) and use a San Antonio area REALTOR®.

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