Understanding Home Appraisals: Printable

Instructions: Use this guide to understand what appraisers look for during a home appraisal and how it impacts the homebuying process.

Key Considerations:

- [] **Property Condition:** Appraisers assess the overall condition of the property, including both the interior and exterior.
- [] Comparable Sales: They compare the home to recently sold properties with similar characteristics in the same neighborhood.
- [] **Square Footage:** Appraisers measure the home's total square footage and compare it to similar-sized homes.
- [] **Upgrades and Features:** The presence of upgrades, modern features, and the overall quality of construction can impact the appraisal.

Impact on Homebuying:

Understanding the appraisal process is crucial because:

- [] It Determines Loan Approval: Lenders use the appraisal to ensure the property's value aligns with the loan amount.
- [] **Negotiation Tool:** Appraisal results can be used as a negotiation tool if the appraised value is lower than the offered price.
- [] **Protects Buyers:** A fair appraisal protects buyers from overpaying for a property.

Preparation Tips:

- [] **Enhance Curb Appeal:** A well-maintained exterior positively influences the appraisal.
- [] **Document Upgrades:** Provide documentation of any significant upgrades or renovations.
- [] Address Repairs: Fix any maintenance issues before the appraisal to present the home in the best light.

Additional Notes:



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