



HOME BUYING TIP:

Figure Out How Much House You Can Afford

Figuring out how much house you can afford is imperative and should be tackled before you ever look for that perfect home. **Why you might ask?** Because falling in love with a house that does not fit in your monthly budget would be devastating.

It is essential to discover how much house **you can afford** because banks may offer you more of a loan than you are willing to pay for monthly. Many first-time homebuyers end up **'house poor,'** which is **something we would never want to encourage.** 'House poor' refers to the amount of money you have leftover in your budget after paying your mortgage and other bills.

Don't forget, when calculating your budget, you need to take into account **homeowners' insurance and property taxes.** Those will both affect your budget monthly. If you are unsure of local property taxes, reach out to your real-estate agent.

