

Moving Forward: A Guide for Life's Next Step

Phase One Preparing to Prepare

Step 1. Clarify Your Why

Ask Yourself:

Why Now? Health? Finances? Loneliness?
Maintenance? Simplifying?
Be honest about the real motivators.

Make a Pros & Cons List:

What are the benefits of moving?
What would you miss if you left?

Talk It Out:

Have open conversations with family, trusted friends, or professionals.

Step 3. Dream a Little, But Be Practical

How Much Space Do You Actually Need?

Be honest, is that formal dining room getting used regularly?

Think accessibility:

Stairs, bathrooms, hallways, laundry.

Do You Want to Buy Again, or Rent?

Owning means equity and stability.
Renting means freedom and fewer responsibilities.

Step 2. Look Honestly at Your Current Home

Evaluate Your Home's Condition:

What needs fixing? Updating?
Is it safe for aging in place?

Get a Market Evaluation:

Know what your home is worth now.
I.e. Not what you paid; Not what you paid
plus what you put into it; Not what your neighbors sold for.

Consider Your Equity:

This might be your biggest asset. What could selling realistically free up for you?

Step 4. Plan for Emotional Transitions

Acknowledge Grief:

Even if the move is necessary, it's okay to feel sadness or anxiety about leaving a home filled with memories.

Create a Memory Plan:

Take photos, write down favorite stories, or pass along heirlooms. These moments matter.

Give Yourself Time:

Emotional readiness often takes longer than the logistics, *and that's perfectly normal.*

Reach out to me, and I will get you the second step, aging in place, or preparing to downsize.

