

## The Purchase Process



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Contact Merrell Lamb & Associates

Determine your requirements, preferences, and final qualifications.

- Loan Qualification
  - Contact a loan officer; discuss financial resources; obtain pre-qualification letter.
- Home Search
- Tour available properties with Kim, Sharon or Caitlin, or visit merrelllamb.com to learn about different neighborhoods.
- Find the Perfect House

Discuss strategy with Merrell Lamb & Associates. Decide on an offer and arrange for earnest money.

- Present and Negotiate Offer

  Merrell Lamb & Associates will present your offer and negotiate with the listing agent.
- Submit Loan Application
- Include all necessary documents.
  - → Underwriting and Appraisal

Underwriter reviews files for loan acceptance. Appraiser establishes value of property.

## **Inspections and Disclosures**

These must be approved by all parties along with the Preliminary Report, as permitted by the contract.

→ Negotiate Repairs

If critical issues are discovered in disclosures, inspections, etc., repairs are negotiated as permitted by contract.

## **Open Escrow with the Title Company**

Submit deposit to escrow.

- Preliminary Report
  - This is issued in response to the application for title insurance.
- Remove Loan, Appraisal, and Inspection Contingencies
- Homeowner's Insurance
  Select an insurance company and coverage; then give insurance agent escrow information.
- Sign Documents

  Buyer signs loan documents, escrow documents, etc. Signing is generally done 3-5 days prior to records/transfer and a final walk-through of the home.
- Down Payment and Loan Funding
  Lender sends funds to title company. The balance of your down payment is due at this time and must be in the form of a direct wire or cashier's check made out to the title company.
- Record/Transfer

  Deed is recorded at County Recorder's office. The title company will let us know when the deed records; the buyer does not need to be present for the recording of the deed.
- 13 The party is at your house-congratulations!