

# HOMEOWNERSHIP

## 10-Step Guide to Buying a Home

### 1. Get educated

Attend a “First-Time Homebuyer Certificate Education” course.

### 2. Budget & improve your credit

Figure out how much house you can afford, and what your credit rating will mean for your mortgage loan.

### 3. Look into homebuying programs

Find out if you qualify for an FHA loan, and ask a HUD certified housing counselor about any helpful home buying programs.

### 4. Get a mortgage loan

Get pre-qualified before you start home-shopping. Compare loans, and consider FHA loans if you qualify.

### 5. Shop for a home

Comparison shop different real estate agents to find the best fit.

### 6. Make an offer

Ensure your offer is contingent on the home passing an inspection and that your loan is approved.

### 7. Have the home inspected

Make sure your home inspector is qualified: licensed by state agencies, a member of professional organizations, and a member of the Better Business Bureau.

### 8. Get insurance

When shopping for homeowners’ insurance, start with the company you get auto insurance from, as there should be a discount for getting all of your insurance in one place.

### 9. Attend the closing

The closing is the final meeting where you sign all of the paperwork related to your mortgage loan and the transfer of ownership.

### 10. Remember

Buying a home is not a step to take lightly; take the time to do thorough homework before committing to any mortgage.



For more info, visit  
[credit.org/homebuyerclass](https://credit.org/homebuyerclass)



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