



# Between Friends



Moore Homes, Moore Listings, Moore Results™

## Five Tips to Turn Your Bedroom into a Blissful Oasis

If your bedroom is more like a catastrophe than oasis, it may be time to wake up and take on the chaos. Designers and sleep experts agree that your bedroom should be a peaceful refuge, a restful retreat that creates an atmosphere conducive to sleep and relaxation.

A "tired" kitchen or bathroom may be an unsightly inconvenience and a challenge if you're selling your house. But a "tired" bedroom can actually impact your mental and physical well being. Here are five tips to turn your den of chaos into an oasis of bliss:

1. Cut the clutter. - When you walk into your bedroom are you visually overwhelmed? Whether you have too much decoration on the walls and nick nacks on top of the dresser, or mounds of dirty laundry on the floor, the visual impact can be the same. The more stuff you have in the room, the smaller and more confining the room will appear.

Do whatever you have to do to organize and store items out of sight. Provided, feng shui experts warn, that you don't stuff the debris under the bed. It's thought that items stored under the bed can disrupt the natural energy flow and ultimately affect your rest.

2. Adults only, please. - That's right; it's time the baby moved into her own room. Also, eliminate from the room all reminders that you have children. That means any toys the kids have left in your room go into their rooms. Their laundry should be folded and put away in their rooms - never left sitting in a basket in yours. Remember, your bedroom is about you and your partner. It's where you decompress after a long day and share moments that are exclusively yours as a couple.

3. Keep the room purposeful. - Our homes have become as crowded as our lives and often our bedrooms do double duty as our home offices. But design and sleep experts agree that you should get the office and computer out of the bedroom if at all possible. A desk and computer detract from the room's ultimate purpose - to serve as a refuge from the day's cares. If you simply have nowhere else to put your computer, try to position it so that it's not the last thing you see before you close your eyes or the first thing you see in the morning.

4. Decoration should be simple but dear to your heart. - The bedroom is no place to try out the latest edgy design trend. Stick with colors, textures and images that are meaningful and relaxing to you. A dramatic centerpiece is OK as long as it inspires a sense of peace. Your focal point could be a massive, four-poster king sized bed or a wall mural of a sensual tropical scene or restful garden. You can even personalize your mural by having a favorite photograph - a romantic scene from your honeymoon, the towering oak tree that grew in the back yard of your childhood home - turned into an easy-to-install wallpaper mural. To learn more about wallpaper murals and customizing your own mural, visit [www.muralsyourway.com](http://www.muralsyourway.com).

5. When it comes to bed linens, splurge away! - Your skin will be in contact with your linens for six to eight hours every night. You'll see your bedspread or comforter every time you pass by the bedroom door. Your linens should appeal to your sense of touch as well as vision. You should fall in love with how the linens feel against your skin, as well as how they look on your bed. Good linens can make even the most simple bedroom decor feel stunning. Copyright © 2007, ARA Content. ♦

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## Hot Fuel Costs Consumers \$2.3 Billion Annually

### Hot Fuel Myths & Facts

**MYTH:** Fill up in the morning when it's cooler.

**FACT:** 35,000-gallon tanks do not dramatically change temperature in daily cycles.

**MYTH:** In-ground tanks at gas stations keep fuel at 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**FACT:** The insulated, fiberglass tanks tend to keep fuel at the temperature it was delivered... for a long time. In the hot Houston Sun, the fuel in the tank truck will be HOT! Also, larger retailers turn over fuel supplies very rapidly, greatly reducing the time the fuel spends in the tanks. It stays HOT!

**MYTH:** Temperature only causes tablespoons of difference in amount of fuel delivered.

**FACT:** A 25-gallon fill-up of 75 degree F gasoline equates to a loss of nearly one quart. The same fill-up at 90 degrees F equates to nearly a half gallon.

**MYTH:** Fuel expands and contracts in a truck's tanks, so there shouldn't be a problem, right?

**FACT:** The only point that fuel temperature expansion and contraction have an impact on the wallet is at the retail pump. The hotter the fuel, the less you get and the more it cost you! ♦

For Sale



TREND SETTER REALTY

The Don Moore Team  
281-851-6310

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Only in America ...do banks leave both doors open and then chain the pens to the counters. ♦

Why is it that doctors call what they do "practice"? ♦

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Maybe you're just curious. Or maybe you want to know how much equity you have in your home. Or perhaps you're thinking of selling soon and want to know how much your home has increased in value. Either way, we can help...with no "sales pitches" or runarounds. Just give us a call and we will send you the facts. ♦

**THANK YOU** for reading our *Between Friends* personal newsletter. We wanted to produce a newsletter that has fun content and is valuable and beneficial to you. Your constructive feedback is always welcome.

**AND...** whether you're thinking of buying, selling, or investing in real estate, or just want to call and say "Hi," We'd love to hear from you...

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When you hire The Don Moore Team, you get two dedicated Agents instead of one.

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I have learned that the more you help out your kids when they are in a financial bind, the more they will get in a bind.

## Did You Know...

**The Running of the bulls** has taken place since at least the 1600s. Ernest Hemingway made it international famous in his 1927 novel *Fiesta: The Sun Also Rises*. During the mid 1800s, runners began to join the herd on their journey. It is held at eight o'clock each morning from the 7th to the 14th of July inclusive and it usually lasts from two to three minutes. It is very dangerous and not for the faint-hearted: fifteen people have been killed since 1910. ♦

**"Mobile" or "Cell"** What is correct: "mobile" phone or "cell" phone? Same thing. The word cell is short for cellular and has been used since Bell Laboratories set up the first wireless telephony system in 1947. It consisted of a network of low-powered transmitters, each placed to cover a small region or cell. Commercial cell phones were introduced in Chicago in 1978 and in Europe in 1981. If you're surprised to learn that mobile telephony has been around so long, here's another surprise: Bell Laboratories invented the videophone in 1927. ♦

In the 6th century BC Greek mathematician Pythagoras said that earth is round - Greek astronomer Aristarchos said in the 3rd century BC that earth revolves around the sun - but - In the 2nd century BC Greek astronomer Eratosthenes accurately measured the distance around the earth at about 40,000 km (24,860 miles) -No one believed them. ♦

*Government always finds a need for whatever money it gets.*

Ronald Reagan ♦

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## What is a Short Sale?

A short sale is when a lender accepts a discount on a mortgage to avoid a possible foreclosure auction or bankruptcy. Instead of buying from a seller, you are purchasing the property directly from the lender for a discount. For example: A homeowner, who is facing foreclosure, has an existing first mortgage of \$300,000. You write an offer to the lender for \$220,000, which is accepted as full payment for the loan. This is a short sale. Why are they willing to take such a discount? Several reasons. First of all, banks do not like excess inventory and bad loans on their books; therefore, if they see an opportunity where they can sell the property without a huge loss, they will do it. Secondly, lenders know they could lose a lot more money if the property goes to auction. There are so many fees involved if the property goes to auction, that they would be better off taking the discount beforehand and be finished with the headache of it all.

Not all lenders will do short sales. You need to make a good case. If the numbers work out for the lender than there is a good chance they will do it.

It is best to do a short sale when the property is in the pre-foreclosure state. There are two stages within pre-foreclosure. The first stage being those individuals who are behind on payments and the second stage are those who are behind on payments with a notice of default. In order for this to work properly and for you to successfully get a short sale, you must find the homeowners who are in the second stage of pre-foreclosure or more than 3 payments behind on their mortgage. Once the notice of default has been recorded, banks become motivated, so you are more likely to get a discount. Until that time, very rarely will a bank ever discount a mortgage that soon. Why would they? The homeowners still have time to cure the loan and make up the back payments.

It does not matter what type of house or condition it's in, all mortgages can be discounted. The best

properties to perform a short sale on are the houses that need lots of work and repairs because lenders will give you a bigger discount. Properties that are over leveraged are also prime candidates. Properties with large 2nd mortgages are also treated as good candidates because the 2nd mortgage is wiped out at the foreclosure auction. Lenders with a 2nd and 3rd mortgage position would rather have something than nothing. ♦ *Foreclosure Outlets*

**CALL TODAY** for our article. The 8-Step Plan! 8 vital steps to presenting your house for a quick sale at minimum cost.



**What are Weep holes?** Weepholes are the gaps left between some bricks in external walls. Weepholes serve two important purposes:

**Ventilation of the internal wall cavity** — without ventilation, mildew, dry rot and

damp reduce the life of the internal wall studs and other building materials within the cavity. Inadequate ventilation is the main cause of "Leaky House Syndrome".

**Drainage** — water that enters the cavity due to capillary action, condensation, damage, or accidental flooding needs to escape somewhere. In tropical and sub-tropical areas of Australia it is not unusual to see water flowing from the weepholes on the prevailing side of well constructed houses after a 'gully raker' or monsoonal storm.

**It is not a good idea to plug up your Weepholes!**

Many homeowners obstruct airflow to the cavity setting up moisture problems. The resulting "Leaky Wall Syndrome" can be difficult and very costly to fix later. It is not a good idea to plug up your Weepholes! ♦

Great Britain was the first county to issue postage stamps. Hence, the postage stamps of Britain are the only stamps in the world not to bear the name of the country of origin. However, every stamp carries a relief image or a silhouette of the monarch's head instead. ♦

**We can evaluate your home providing tips on how to sell for TOP DOLLAR!**  
**Call The Don Moore Team TODAY! Don Moore (281) 851-6310 ☎ Irene Chao (832) 630-1960**

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