

What are important house features?

When you buy a home, pay close attention to property features that can't be changed, or "permanent" features. Make sure that you like those features - and realize that if you decide to sell your home in the future, permanent features will be an important consideration for your future buyers.

It's also important to weigh a house's "preferred" features - features that you might be able to change with home improvements. Factor that investment into your finances when you decide to buy a home.

With Truehome, you are well on your way to making smart housing decisions!

Permanent features to look for:

1. A location within a reputable school district that is also convenient to stores, recreation, jobs and health care.
2. A house with some scenic features such as waterview or greenspace.
3. A home should be oriented to provide effective use of sunlight, shade, and view.
4. Space for sufficient off-street parking; garage.
5. An efficient floor plan. Walkout basements and first floor bedrooms are often desirable.

Permanent features to avoid:

1. Lax local regulations that may permit poor neighborhood maintenance.
2. Shared or long driveways, especially if snowplowing is a consideration.
3. Non-removable contaminants in the house, yard or on adjacent properties.
4. Adjacent airports, vacant land, highways, junkyards, commercial buildings and power lines.
5. Many steps to unload groceries to the kitchen.