

## 5.1: Buying a Home

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Thinking about buying a home? We have information that can help! Got questions? Talk to one of our [housing counselors](#)!

### 1. Figure out how much you can afford

What you can afford depends on your income, credit rating, current monthly expenses, downpayment and the interest rate.

- [Home Economics](#)
- [Homebuying programs in your state](#)

### 2. Know your rights

- [Fair Housing: Equal Opportunity for All](#) – brochure
- [Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act \(RESPA\)](#)
- [Borrower's rights](#)
- [Predatory lending](#)

### 3. Shop for a loan

- [Looking for the best mortgage: shop, compare, negotiate](#) – brochure
- [Let FHA help you](#)
- [Learn about interest only loans](#)

### 4. Learn about homebuying programs

- [Homebuying programs in your state](#)
- [Let FHA help you](#) (FHA loan programs offer lower downpayments and are a good option for first-time homebuyers!)
- HUD's special homebuying programs
  - [Good Neighbor Next Door](#) (formerly known as Teacher/Officer/Firefighter Next Door)
  - [Homeownership for public housing residents](#)
  - [Indian Home Loan Guarantee Program](#) (Section 184)

### 5. Shop for a home

- [Wish list](#) – what features do you want?
- [Home-shopping checklist](#)? take this list with you when comparing homes
- [Homes for sale](#) (including HUD homes)
- [“Fixer-Uppers – home purchase and repair programs](#)
- [Manufactured \(mobile\) homes](#)
- [Shopping for a Home FAQ's](#)

### 6. Make an offer

- [Making an offer](#)

### 7. Get a home inspection

- [For Your Protection Get a Home Inspection](#)

### 8. Shop for homeowners insurance

- [Homeowners insurance](#)
- [12 ways to lower your homeowners insurance costs](#)

### 9. Sign papers

You're finally ready to go to “settlement” or “closing.” Be sure to read everything before you sign!

- [Getting ready to close](#)

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