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SAY "I DO" TO A NEW HOME
Home-Buying Tips for Newlyweds

ST. LOUIS, MO (May 2, 2011) – A new home is as much of an investment as a marriage is – with a great deal at stake. In addition to the enormous rewards and risk associated with purchasing a home, newlyweds must also take into consideration both their individual and mutual needs and wants.

“It’s important for each person to communicate their preferences with their spouse from the very beginning of the process,” said Jim Dohr, president of Coldwell Banker Gundaker. “That way, the strongest preferences can be met for each person, and they can reach a compromise on those preferences they view as being less critical.”

The future Mr. and Mrs. Homeowner should keep these recommendations in mind:

- **Your changing needs.** As newlyweds, it is important to figure out your long-term goals as a family unit. Do you plan on having a family? Adopting a dog? Make sure that your home can suit your evolving needs now and for years to come.
- **Trained eye.** A Realtor can offer the same kind of insight you would expect from your wedding planner by guiding you through the purchase of your first home. Realtors are skilled at dealing with clients’ desires and can educate you on the options available to reach compromises.
- **Protect your assets.** To make certain that your beautiful wedding gifts are protected, you should purchase homeowner’s insurance prior to moving day. When choosing your policy, take into account your specific needs. For example, you may need specialized coverage if your new home is located in an area that is prone to extreme weather like flooding or hurricanes.
- **Keep records.** Hold on to all of the documents related to the purchase of your home, as well as any permanent improvements made on the house. These records will come in handy when filing your taxes or refinancing your mortgage in the future.

Coldwell Banker Gundaker, the leading residential real estate brokerage company in St. Louis, operates 23 offices with nearly 2,000 sales associates serving metropolitan St. Louis and east-central Missouri. Coldwell Banker Gundaker is part of NRT LLC, the nation’s largest residential real estate brokerage company. NRT, a subsidiary of Realty Group, operates Realty Group’s company-owned real estate brokerage offices. For more information, please visit www.cb Gundaker.com.

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