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CREATE GOOD KARMA WHEN MOVING
Deliver a Clean Home to Buyers

ST. LOUIS, MO (February 28, 2011) – Walking through the doors of a new home is a very exciting time in one’s life, but the concept of moving is also very stressful. Much like the golden rule states, move out of your old home, as you would like to move into it. While a standard home sale contract contains a clause that the seller is expected to leave the home in “broom-clean” condition, a few extra steps will keep your buyers happy and leave your real estate karma intact.

“Buyers can request to have the home professionally cleaned, but most are satisfied as long as the home meets basic standards,” said Jim Dohr, president of Coldwell Banker Gundaker. “Sellers should include cleaning on their list of moving to-dos so that it isn’t forgotten.”

Broom-clean condition can be achieved using the following guidelines:

- **Your treasures are someone else’s garbage.** Make sure all items belonging to you are removed a day before the closing. Clear out any basement items, clean the clutter in the attic and wipe down cabinet and closet storage.
- **The little things.** Appliances remaining in the home such as refrigerators, microwaves, ovens and freezers should be emptied and cleaned.
- **Make living spaces livable.** All floors in all rooms of the house must be adequately swept, vacuumed or washed once all of your furniture is removed from the home. Also, give kitchen and all bathroom counters a once over for cleanliness before you depart.
- **Remember the exterior.** Don’t forget about the home’s outdoor areas. Garages and tool sheds should be cleared out and patios and decks should be tidy.

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