## THE CLOSING PROCESS

GATHER YOUR DOCUMENTS



This list might vary from state to state depending on the different legal requirements for home purchases. Here is the minimum you usually need to bring:

- Homeowner's insurance policy
- Photo ID
- List of your addresses within the last 10 years
- Cashier's check for closing costs & down payment
- Checkbook as a backup

## SIGN AT CLOSING

The closing documents will involve a lot of paperwork and signing, and can be overwhelming if you are not anticipating it:

- Closing disclosure
- Loan application
- Mortgage Note
- Mortgage
- Title documents
- Deed
- Affidavits
- Initial escrow disclosure
- Transfer tax declaration
- A homestead declaration can exempt you from a certain amount of property taxes.
- If you ever must declare bankruptcy, a homestead can help prevent the forced sale of your home to pay debts, except for the mortgage (i.e., no help in a foreclosure situation), construction liens, and property taxes.
- Helps keep your surviving spouse in your home.

## FILE A HOMESTEAD DECLARATION



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