



# Moving From Renter to Owner Is Easier Than You Imagined

Buying a home today is not as daunting as you may think. Today's low interest rates and numerous affordable home options make buying an enticing option over renting.

Renting brings you no equity, no tax benefits, no control over rent increases and no pride of ownership.

BUYING a home does! Here are 7 reasons to own your own home...

1. **Tax breaks.** The U.S. Tax Code lets you deduct the interest you pay on your mortgage, your property taxes, as well as some of the costs involved in buying your home.
2. **Appreciation.** Real estate has long-term, stable growth in value. While year-to-year fluctuations are normal, median existing-home sale prices have increased on average 5 percent each year from 1972 through 2011.
3. **Equity.** Money paid for rent is money that you'll never see again, however mortgage payments let you build equity ownership interest in your home.
4. **Savings.** Building equity in your home is a ready-made savings plan. And when you sell, you can generally take up to \$250,000 (\$500,000 for a married couple) as a gain without owing any federal income tax.
5. **Predictability.** Unlike rent, your fixed-mortgage payments don't rise over the years so your housing costs may actually decline as you own the home longer. However, keep in mind that property taxes and insurance costs will increase.
6. **Freedom.** The home is yours. Regardless of condition, you can have fun updating and decorating how you want and benefit from the investment for as long as you own the home.
7. **Stability.** Remaining in one neighborhood for several years gives you a chance to participate in community activities, lets you and your family establish lasting friendships, and offers your children the benefit of educational continuity.

**Contact Me if You Are Ready to Make the Move to Home Ownership!**



Laurence Ostrom, SRES  
Professional Realty Consultants  
Office: 610-783-1102  
Cell: 610-564-5815  
Email: [ostrom@prc-pa.net](mailto:ostrom@prc-pa.net)

*Information courtesy of Suburban West REALTORS® Association  
and the National Association of REALTORS®*