

Preparing an Inherited Home for Its Next Chapter

Practical guidance for families considering their property options



One of the biggest decisions after inheriting a home is deciding what comes next for the property. Every family's situation is different, and there's rarely a need to make an immediate decision.

Whether the property is ultimately kept, rented, or sold, taking a thoughtful approach can help reduce stress and avoid unnecessary expenses.

Step 1: Understand the Home's Current Condition

Before making major decisions, it's helpful to gain a clear understanding of the property's overall condition. Ask yourself:

- ☐ Are there obvious maintenance or safety concerns?
- ☐ Has the home been well maintained?
- ☐ Are there signs of deferred maintenance?
- ☐ Are repairs needed immediately, or can they wait?

Having an objective understanding of the property's condition often makes the next decisions much easier.

Step 2: Don't Assume Every Repair Is Necessary

Many families believe they need to renovate the home before making any decisions. In reality, every property is different. Some homes benefit from a few simple improvements, while others may be perfectly suitable to sell or transfer ownership just as they are. Before investing significant time or money, it's often helpful to understand the potential return on those improvements.

Step 3: If You Live Out of the Area

Many families managing an inherited home live in another city — or even another state — which can make things especially challenging. If that's your situation, consider:

- ☐ Arranging for someone to check on the property regularly.
- ☐ Coordinating lawn care and basic maintenance.
- ☐ Scheduling repairs only when they're truly needed.
- ☐ Keeping a list of trusted local service providers.
- ☐ Working with someone who can be your local point of contact when questions arise.

Managing a home from a distance can feel overwhelming, but having reliable local resources can make the process much more manageable.

Step 4: Explore Your Options

There isn't a one-size-fits-all solution. Depending on your goals and the condition of the property, you may decide to:

- ☐ Keep the home.
- ☐ Rent the property.
- ☐ Sell the home in its current condition.
- ☐ Make selected improvements before selling.

Gathering information before making a decision often leads to the best outcome for everyone involved.

A Local Resource When You Need One

If you're unsure about the home's condition — or simply want another set of eyes on the property — I'm happy to help. I offer a complimentary Property Walkthrough to help you better understand the home's current condition. Together, we'll identify any obvious maintenance concerns, discuss what may or may not need attention, and talk through the different options available based on the property's condition.

If you live out of the area, I can also be a local resource to help coordinate property visits, recommend trusted service providers, and keep you informed. There's never any obligation — my goal is simply to help you move forward with confidence, wherever you call home.

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