



Buying and Owning a Home
WANTS vs. NEEDS: NEIGHBORHOODS

Find this and other resources at <http://www.freddiemac.com/calculators>

Understanding your wants and needs for a neighborhood can save you time when house hunting. But be realistic and keep your budget in mind – ranking things as important that are out of your price range can make the process difficult and frustrating.

	Very Important	Would Like	Not Important	Do Not Want	Comments*
Old, established neighborhood					
New, planned development					
Homeowner's association					
Community/neighborhood recreation center/pool					
Walking distance to schools					
Close to public transportation					
Close to major highways					
Close to medical/emergency facilities					
Close to place of worship					
Close to public land/park					
Close to grocery stores					
Close to general shopping					
Close to golf course / country club					
Close to airport					
Mail delivered to house (vs. P.O. box)					
Low property taxes					
General neighborhood upkeep					
Safe for young children (sidewalks, low traffic, etc.)					
Low vehicle traffic					
Good public school system					

*Note: Use the comments column for edits to ranking. For example, a homeowner's association may be okay, but only if the fees are within a certain range.