

# The Real Estate

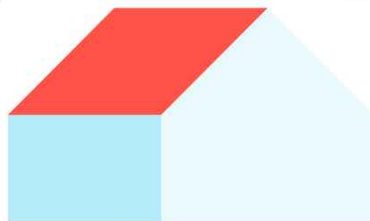
# Journey

The road to homeownership may seem overwhelming but when you take it step by step, you'll soon reach your destination — your dream home!



**Your first home**

- Set up a designated down payment savings account.
- Pay down credit card and other debt.
- Look into first-time homebuyer programs.



**Need more space**

- Make bigger (or additional) mortgage payments.
- Refinance and shorten your mortgage loan term.
- Reduce expenses to save money.



**Time to downsize**  
(or invest in property)

- Talk to your financial professional about tapping into your home's equity.
- Think about the type of home and community you want to live in.
- Start organizing now.

## Journey

### Essentials:

- ✓ Good credit and low consumer debt.
- ✓ A professional agent in your corner.
- ✓ A positive attitude — don't give up!



**Rick McDowell and Jimmy McDowell**  
Principal Broker / Broker

**PREMIERE**  
PROPERTY GROUP, LLC

**Premiere Property Group, LLC**  
1500 NW Bethany Boulevard,  
Suite 190  
Beaverton, Oregon 97006  
(503) 887-0597



Rick@TheMcDowellTeam.net  
www.TheMcDowellTeam.net  
(971) 600-4688 | Jimmy@TheMcDowellTeam.net

# The Road Ahead

Homeownership provides stability, security and the freedom to make the space your own. It also offers financial advantages — not only will you get tax benefits, building equity in your home is like a ready-made savings plan.



Home prices  
have increased  
**971%**  
since 1967



Homeowners have  
**40x**  
the net worth  
of renters



Average  
homeowner  
equity is  
**\$299K**



**39%**  
of homeowners  
own their home free  
and clear



Over 46% of  
mortgaged residences  
have equity of at least  
**50%**



With home prices rising, consider buying now and refinancing later. Discussing options with a financial professional is always a good idea.

If you or someone you know is considering a move, feel free to contact me with any questions. I'm here to offer clear, concise information you can trust. I also belong to a network of top real estate professionals, and I can connect you to one wherever you're looking to go.

SOURCES: 1. bankrate.com/home-equity/homeowner-equity-data-and-statistics 2. in2013dollars.com/Housing/price-inflation 3. axios.com/2023/12/12/mortgage-free-homes 4. Fred.stlouisfed.org 5. Keeping Current Matters 6. icemortgage.com/resources/data-reports/february-2024-mortgage-monitor

## *TheMcDowellTeam.net Business Directory Spotlight: HVAC Contractors*

*Cedar Creek Heating & Cooling*  
503-585-5451  
503-664-2048  
[www.CedarCreekHVAC.com](http://www.CedarCreekHVAC.com)  
[Office@CedarCreekHVAC.com](mailto:Office@CedarCreekHVAC.com)

*Rose City Heating & Air*  
503-636-5371  
Portland, OR  
[www.RoseCityHeating.com](http://www.RoseCityHeating.com)  
[Service@RoseCityHeating.com](mailto:Service@RoseCityHeating.com)

*Western Heating & Cooling*  
503-303-0771  
Portland, OR 97006  
[www.WesternHeating.com](http://www.WesternHeating.com)  
[Contact@WesternHeating.com](mailto:Contact@WesternHeating.com)

*Wilfert Heating & Air Conditioning*  
503-648-1561  
Hillsboro, OR  
[www.WilfertHeatingandAir.com](http://www.WilfertHeatingandAir.com)  
[Info@WilfertHeatingandCooling.com](mailto:Info@WilfertHeatingandCooling.com)

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