

Find Your Perfect Chicago Neighborhood

BUYER'S WORKSHEET



The Dobbs Group
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1. Daily Life: Will This Neighborhood Fit My Routine?

- How long will my commute be?
- Are grocery stores, restaurants, shops, pharmacies, and other essentials nearby?
- What's the parking situation?
- How is traffic flow in and around the neighborhood?
- Are there sidewalks, bike lanes, or easy walkability?

2. Schools & Education: Will This Area Work for My Family's Needs?

- What school district is this home in?
- How do local schools rank?
- Are there good private or charter school options nearby?
- What's the school commute like?
- Are there parks, libraries, and kid-friendly activities nearby?

3. Market Trends: Is This a Smart Investment?

- Are home values in this neighborhood increasing, stable, or declining?
- Are there signs of new development or revitalization?
- What's the typical price per square foot in this area?
- How competitive is this area?
- Are there upcoming zoning changes or major projects planned?

4. Lifestyle & Community: Will I Feel at Home Here?

- What's the overall vibe of the neighborhood?
- Are there restaurants, coffee shops, or entertainment spots nearby?
- What kind of community activities happen here?
- How diverse is the housing stock?
- Are there parks, green spaces, or waterfront access?

5. Pet-Friendly Living: Is This Neighborhood Right for My Furry Friend?

- Do we need a garden? Are there nearby pet-friendly outdoor areas?
- Are pets allowed in condos or apartment buildings?
- How pet-friendly are local businesses?
- Are there veterinarians, pet stores, and emergency animal hospitals nearby?
- Is the neighborhood noisy or high-traffic?
- Do neighbors seem to have pets?

6. Practical Considerations: Are There Any Deal Breakers?

- Is there a homeowners association (HOA), and what are the rules?
- Are there any noise factors to consider?
- How accessible is public transportation?
- What's the property tax rate in this area?
- Will this neighborhood still work for me 5-10 years from now?

7. Talk to Locals: Get Insider Knowledge

- What do current residents love most about living here?
- What's something people wish they knew before moving here?
- What are the biggest pros and cons of this area?

If you need help narrowing down neighborhoods or want insights beyond the usual market data, I'd love to share what I've learned over the years. Please send your neighborhood worksheet, ballpark budget, and your preferred neighborhood(s) and I will suggest a few options. Let's find the right place for you!

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