

Oy Vey!

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I've been at this house hunting thing for about a month. Kyle and I are probably in a little different situation than most home buyers: we have no lease ending, we're not trying to beat the first time home buyer's tax credit deadline, and we're not willing to settle (since I never want to move again :)). That being said, I should probably apologize to every person I've ever done business with: I'm a pain in the booty! My obsessive, compulsive, anal, perfectionist personality really shines... (That's great for the clients I work with because I make sure to cross all the 'T's' and dot all the 'I's' but it doesn't make it real easy for me to actually be the client.)

In the last month we've looked at about 30 homes (the average home buyer looks at 7), changed our mind about as many times, made 2 offers (that's not all that out of the ordinary), fought like cats and dogs (again, very common when house hunting), and finally determined that we should just play 'chicken' with the homes we like.

As the buyer I want a good deal. I am willing to pay a fair price for a home but I'm **not** willing to pay more for a house than market value dictates just because it's 'perfect' for my family. The sellers of the two homes my husband and I made offers on have only owned the homes for a few years and bought them before the 'bust' so they really paid too much for them. That means, they have no equity in the properties and are trying to pass along that inflated price to someone else (me).

Both homes we made offers on are vacant (and have been on the market for almost a year) so we're hoping that at some point they will choose to 'cut their losses' and come down in price - or at least consider working with us.

Luckily, the 'slow season' is right around the corner. People really don't want to move around the holiday so new homes are not coming onto the market and buyers aren't buying. I would like to think that I will be able to use that to my advantage.

Until then, we are going to continue watching the market and hoping that a third 'perfect' home appears!