

# TheFitFinance

## Mortgage Shopping Checklist

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Use this checklist to stay organized while comparing mortgage quotes. Checking off these steps can help you secure the best rate and terms.

- Know your credit score and work to improve it if necessary.
- Calculate how much you can afford for a monthly payment.
- Gather documents (proof of income, tax returns, credit reports).
- Shop around with multiple mortgage lenders.
- Request multiple loan estimates on the same day for accurate comparisons.
- Compare interest rates, APRs, lender fees, and closing costs.
- Evaluate loan terms (15 vs. 30 years) and fixed vs. adjustable rates.
- Consider down payment amount and total cash needed at closing.
- Check for pre-approval offers and verify rate lock options.
- Revisit quotes and negotiate — don't be afraid to walk away if terms aren't favorable.