

# Home Improvement

## Looking to buy a home? 2020 may be your year!

(StatePoint) If buying a home is on your near-future to-do list, experts say that 2020 may be a good year to make it happen. Mortgage interest rates are near historic lows, providing you with the opportunity to finance a new home purchase at a much lower cost.

According to a new forecast from Freddie Mac, mortgage rates will stay low for all of 2020 and 2021, giving prospective homeowners substantial time to plan their purchase. This makes for good climate to buy a home

with a fixed rate mortgage. For those who are already homeowners, refinancing now may be a good idea.

“For those serious about homeownership, today’s sub 4 percent mortgage rates should not be taken for granted,” says Freddie Mac chief economist, Sam Khater. “For comparative purposes, in 2000, rates averaged eight percent; and in the 80s, they spiked to 18.5 percent.”

Khater stresses that while mortgage rates are an essential factor to consider in the home-buying process, there

are other important items to think about as well as you lay the groundwork for your purchase. These include getting a firm handle on your finances, knowing your credit score (and taking steps to boost it if necessary) and familiarizing yourself with down payment options. For more information and tools on home buying and homeownership, visit myhome.freddie.mac.

Whether you are making the jump from renting to owning, or looking for a home that better meets your

current needs, now may be a great time to consid-

er making your real estate dreams a reality. Today’s low

rates could save you money for years to come.



**Everett Home & Garden Show March 13-15**  
**Angel of the Winds Arena, at the Everett Events Center, 2000 Hewitt Avenue**

**Show Times:**  
**Friday: Noon to 6pm \* Saturday: 10am to 6pm**  
**\* Sunday: 10am to 5pm**  
**General Admission: Adults \$7.00 Seniors \$6.50 Youth 16 & under Free**

**\$2.00 OFF Discount Coupon available at [www.everetthomegardenshow.com](http://www.everetthomegardenshow.com)**

Print and present at the time of ticket purchase at the Main Box Office at Hewitt & Oakes Avenues.

**FREE Parking for the Home Show!**  
Park for free Saturday and Sunday only at the Snohomish County Parking Garage on Oakes Avenue between Wall Street and Pacific Avenue!  
(Compliments of Harley Exterior Inc.)