



HOUSING PRIORITY GAME

1. Give each participant both pages of the game board and 30 objects to use as markers. Beans, pennies, M&Ms, paper clips can be used as markers. (M&Ms are the most fun because participants can eat their equity after playing the game.)
2. Encourage participants to consider their priorities as they make their spending choices. Instruct each participant to choose level 1, level 2, or level 3 in each row, placing the appropriate number of objects in the selected square to indicate his or her spending choices. Each participant should choose one square in each row, with the exception of the optional row.
3. After participants have finished making their housing selections, take a poll and ask the group the following questions:
 - a. How many of you were able to buy a home with your 30 – object budget that you could be happy with?
 - b. Were you able to differentiate between your needs and wants?
 - c. How many of you needed more beans?
 - d. What lesson can be learned from this activity?
 - e. Why did we conduct this activity to open the Shopping for a Home section?
4. Next, have participants start the game again, playing by the same rules but with five fewer beans.
5. Poll the class for the results.

HOUSING PRIORITY GAME

If you had a 30-object budget, what would your priorities be? Read the description in each row. Choose level 1, 2 or 3 in each row. Place the appropriate number of objects in the selected square to indicate your spending choices. You must choose one square in each row with the exception of the optional row.

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
LOCATION	Commercial business nearby 	Mix of multifamily and single-family residences, moderate traffic 	Quiet neighborhood, light traffic 
NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT	No neighborhood association or Neighborhood Watch program; several homes in disrepair; above average crime rate 	40% involved in neighborhood association; Neighborhood Watch initiated but not active; 60% of properties well kept, neat and clean; criminal activity level is moderate 	Active neighborhood association; active Neighborhood Watch meets monthly; most homes in area are well kept, clean and neat; minimal criminal activity 
NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITIES <small>(Paved streets, sewer system, street lighting)</small>	Few facilities available 	Some facilities available 	All facilities available 
LOT SIZE	Houses close together; not much private outdoor space 	Houses are separated; moderate amount of private outdoor space 	Houses are far apart; more than enough private outdoor space 
AMOUNT OF LANDSCAPING	A few shrubs and small trees 	Some shrubs and medium-size trees 	Many shrubs and a large tree 
SIZE OF HOUSE	Small size, less than 1,500 sq. ft 	Moderate size, about 2,000 sq. ft 	Large size, over 2,500 sq. ft 
SIZE OF ROOMS	Small 	Medium 	Large 

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
NUMBER OF BEDROOMS	2 bedrooms 	3 bedrooms 	4 or more bedrooms 
BATHROOMS	1 bath 	1 1/2 to 2 bathrooms 	2 1/2 to 3 bathrooms 
QUALITY OF STRUCTURE (Soundness of foundation and roof, quality of building materials)	Minimum quality 	Average quality 	Excellent quality 
ENERGY SAVING FEATURES (Insulation, storm windows, caulking and weather stripping)	Few energy-saving features 	Some energy-saving features 	Many energy-saving features 
QUALITY OF INTERIOR MATERIALS (Floor coverings, wall treatments, cabinetry, lighting)	Minimum quality 	Average quality 	Excellent quality 
STORAGE	Minimum storage 	Average storage 	Excellent Storage 
OPTIONAL	Attached garage 	Full basement 	Family room 