

# Am I Ready to Be a Homeowner?

For each question below, choose the answer that best describes your situation.

## 1 ARE YOU ABLE TO PAY YOUR RENT EACH MONTH?

- A Yes, but not always on time.
- B Yes, but there's not much left to save.
- C Yes, and I'm able to consistently save.

## 2 ARE YOU REGULARLY CONTRIBUTING TO SAVINGS?

- A No, but I'm working on it.
- B Yes, but it's hard to not dip into these funds.
- C Yes, and it's an automatic deduction to a separate account that I don't touch.

## 3 HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SAVING FOR A DOWN PAYMENT?

- A I'd like to start soon.
- B I've been saving for less than 6 months.
- C I've been saving for over 6 months.

## 4 WHAT IS YOUR CREDIT SCORE?

- A I don't know, but probably not good.
- B Maybe a fair score, between 550 and 680.
- C Pretty good, definitely more than a 680.

## 5 HOW MUCH DO YOU PAY EACH MONTH TOWARDS CREDIT CARD AND OTHER DEBT?

- A It's become too overwhelming and I have given up trying to keep up with monthly payments.
- B Pretty much everything that's left over after rent and food.
- C A small, manageable amount that still leaves room for consistent savings.

## 6 DO YOU FILE YOUR TAXES EACH YEAR AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL APPLICABLE CREDITS?

- A I don't always file my taxes.
- B I file, and often owe the IRS large sums of money.
- C I file, and usually get a refund.

## 7 ARE YOU READY TO SETTLE DOWN IN A HOUSE?

- A My job might have to change, but I should be able to stay in the neighborhood where I buy my home.
- B My job is secure, but I may only stay in my new home for a couple of years.
- C I definitely see myself staying at the same job and in my new home for many years to come.

Number of **A** answers  x 1 =

Number of **B** answers  x 2 =

Number of **C** answers  x 3 =

TOTAL =

**0 to 12 points:** A few years ago, mortgage brokers may have qualified you for a very high interest loan, but these days, your finances need to be in tip-top shape. This is a great financial goal though, so stay motivated! Work with a financial coach to boost your savings, tackle your debt, and build your credit. Getting your financial house in order first will have a huge pay off!

**13 to 18 points:** You've got a solid foundation, but your finances could still use a little weatherproofing. Use the **GEAR UP FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP** WorkSheet as a barometer for the areas of your finances that still require extra polish. Seek out free and low cost community resources along the way.

**19 and over:** Congratulations! You are ready to take serious steps towards making your goal a reality. Move on to the **GEAR UP FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP** WorkSheet and take advantage of community resources that can help you make that final leap.

