# **EFFECTIVE** NETWORKING STRATEGIES for Real Estate Professionals

Building a strong network is not just about expanding your contact list — it's about forging meaningful professional connections that can propel your career forward. Whether you're a seasoned agent, new to the game, or somewhere in between, mastering the art of networking is vital. With that in mind, here are a few nononsense tips to help you network.



# **GET ACTIVE ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

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Chances are that you are already pretty active on social media. However, like most real estate agents, your posts are probably geared toward landing new clients. While that's a great way to use social media, you also need to leverage channels like Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn to build your network.

LinkedIn is the professional's social network. By regularly updating your profile with achievements, sharing insightful articles, and participating in discussions, you can grow a strong presence. It's a fantastic platform for connecting with other professionals, including real estate agents, brokers, investors, and even potential clients.

Facebook and Instagram are great networking tools, too. Use these channels to showcase properties, share success stories, and connect with the community. Make sure to include hashtags to reach a broader audience and engage with followers through comments and messages.





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#### **ATTEND INDUSTRY EVENTS & CONFERENCES**

Real estate conferences, seminars, and local networking events are goldmines for meeting peers, mentors, and industry leaders. You can connect with inspectors, lenders, and title companies, too.

Every time you attend one of these events, make sure you've got plenty of business cards handy. As you collect business cards from other vendors, make sure you ask lots of questions and stay organized. You don't want to misplace the contact information of a promising new business partner.



#### JOIN REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATIONS AND GROUPS

You've probably already joined your local and state association of realtors. While those organizations serve as great launching points for your career, don't stop there. Explore other groups and real estate associations that can add value to your business.

That said, not all organizations are worth joining. Vet each prospective association or group, especially those that require you to pay monthly or annual dues. Make sure you are getting good value for your money. The best associations will enhance your professional image and grant you access to valuable business resources.

Several platforms have active real estate communities. A few examples include Reddit and BiggerPockets. Participating in these forums can help you gain insights, share experiences, and connect with potential partners or clients.



#### **OFFER VALUE & SHARE KNOWLEDGE**

As you strive to build your network, remember that you can't just take. You need to give value, too. Position yourself as an industry expert by hosting educational events on topics relevant to your market or specialty. This not only provides value to your network but also helps attract new connections interested in your skills.

Contribute to industry publications to increase your visibility and establish your authority in the field. It's also a great way to share your insights and experiences with a wider audience.

#### **BUILD LOCAL COMMUNITY TIES**

Get more active in your community to build relationships with local business owners and leaders. You can co-host events or sponsor community activities, such as the local baseball team or rec league. This shows your investment in the community and can open doors to new local networks.

Volunteering is another great way to give back to your community. It is personally rewarding and gives you a chance to meet like-minded professionals and potential clients who share your values.

#### **USE TECH AND REAL ESTATE TOOLS**

Real estate apps and platforms offer networking opportunities through forums, listings, and agent profiles. Actively engage on these platforms to increase your visibility and showcase your expertise.

As your network grows, make sure to invest in a quality customer relationship management (CRM) system. A great CRM will help you keep up with your contacts and nurture relationships.

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## COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE

Whether you are talking to potential clients, brokers, inspectors, title companies, or local business owners, great communication is key. Be genuinely interested, and don't exhibit pushy behavior. Even if your ultimate goal is to benefit your business, you need to show that you also care about the people in your network.

When it comes time to pitch your service and expertise, make sure you've got an efficient, focused monologue ready to go. Be respectful of your audience's time and make a strong impression. Tailor your pitch to different audiences and practice it until the delivery feels natural and authentic.

Once you've forged new partnerships, continue to nurture them. Be available to your business partners and clients. Remember, the more you pour into these relationships, the more you will get out of them.

### **GET OUT THERE AND START NETWORKING**

Don't feel like you've got to use all of these real estate networking tips at once. The important thing is getting started! Pick one or two strategies and build out from there. Take advantage of free <u>resources and tools</u> to help you along the way. Before you know it, you'll have an expansive professional network that drives your career forward!

