



## TEN GREAT REASONS TO BUY A HOME

1. **Quality of life** – a home provides stability and security for you and your loved ones.
2. **Pride of home ownership** – it's *your* personal haven and you're your own landlord.
3. **Historically low interest rates** – around 5.5 percent in the U.S.
4. **Tax Credit** – U.S. government provides a special \$8,000 incentive for qualifying first-time buyers.
5. **Appreciation potential** – your home investment can grow in value.
6. **Equity buildup and debt pay down** – homeowners enjoy an average net worth of approximately \$184,000 vs. \$4,000 for renters.
7. **Leverage** – where else can you buy an investment of this magnitude with 5-10 percent down?
8. **Tax deduction advantages** – property tax and mortgage interest write-offs (in Canada, home owners gain a tax benefit upon selling).
9. **Tax exemption** – up to \$500,000 per couple or \$250,000 per person on sale of a primary residence in the United States (no tax upon sale in Canada).
10. **The real cost of renting** – at \$800 per month, with the average 6 percent rental increase per year, you will pay **\$126,536** over a 10-year period but have *zero ownership* of the property.