



Closing Documents You Should Keep

On closing day, expect to sign a lot of documents and walk away with a big stack of papers. Here is a list of the most important documents you should file for future reference.

- **HUD-1 settlement statement.** Itemizes all the costs — commissions, loan fees, points, and hazard insurance —associated with the closing. You would need it for income tax purposes if you paid points.
- **Truth in Lending statement.** Summarizes the terms of your mortgage loan, including the annual percentage rate and rescission period.
- **Mortgage and note.** Spell out the legal terms of your mortgage obligation and the agreed-upon repayment terms.
- **Deed.** Transfers ownership to you.
- **Affidavits.** Binding statements by either party. For example, the sellers will often sign an affidavit stating that they have not incurred any liens.
- **Riders.** Amendments to the sales contract that affect your rights. Example: The sellers will not move out until two weeks after closing but will pay rent to the buyers during that period.
- **Insurance policies.** Provide a record and proof of your coverage.