



- Home
- Latest Features
- Featured Properties
  - Urban Living
  - Luxury Homes
  - Great Gardens
  - Dream Wrecks
  - Quirky Homes
- Buy a Property
- Rent a Property
- RSS Feeds

Home > Latest Features

# Property Barometer - What's going up and what's going down?

By Alison Cork | Tuesday 1 July | 12:51



Our property expert offers advice on what your most sensible moves would be in the property market this July - and what pitfalls to avoid as the UK feels the pinch of the financial credit crunch.

## What's Going Up?

### Stock clearances

Just as repossessions and properties on the market are on the up, so too are interiors companies sliding into administration - ILVA being the most recent. Still, whoever thought they could take on the flat pack goliath and beat them at their own game must have been mad. Just like it was 30 years ago when Bjorn Borg made it a hat trick of Wimbledon wins, it's game, set and match to the Swedes.

### Buy to letters in the red

Having built up the courage and taken the plunge, buy-to-let virgins are feeling very disappointed by the whole experience. Recently I've heard (with depressing regularity) of people having to 'let go' of their properties, as the horrible reality of having bought high hits home, literally.

### The reveling vultures

Sadly on the rise, are those dinner party bores who delight in feasting on other people's tales of woe, as they sit comfortably. We'll see, city boys...the next round of write down revelations is yet to be made public, and you know it.

## What's Going Down

### Rents

Now, I know that estate agents would have you think differently, but you don't have to be Einstein to work out the effect on rental values of the impending Tsunami of properties coming to the rental market (yes, that'll be the houses that won't sell, it's really not rocket science).

### Viewings

My estate agent pals (and believe it or not, I do have a few) are telling me that they're noticing a decline in the number of people even bothering to view. It's not that people don't want to buy, they just know that there's absolutely no point in doing it now. And especially not whilst the sun is shining...

### Bums on seats

Talking of estate agent pals, their numbers are dwindling as agency closures and widespread redundancies have seen hundreds swept away by the tumbleweed. Next time you pass the window, take a look at the empty chairs and the digestives where the chocolate Hobnobs used to be.

Alison Cork is a property journalist and presenter of TV shows Don't Move, Improve! and Homes & Property.

She founded online lifestyle portal Homes & Bargains - the place to find quality products for the home at affordable prices. Alison also runs ProblemSolved - the UK's largest directory of recommended, local tradespeople.



**Property Search**

I am  Buying  Renting

Price: Min  Max

Beds: Min  Max

Location:

**Search for property**

Powered by propertyfinder.com

Get on top of your finances

Find out more >

sky.com/money

- Related Articles**
- ▶ Rooms that work
  - ▶ Psychology of colour
  - ▶ Dreamy bedrooms
  - ▶ Holiday Home Hotspots

Email a Friend Print Page