

## Real Estate 411 – Real Estate Lifestyles

### QUICK TIP

#### How to choose the right neighborhood

Whether you like big yards or hip nightclubs, there's a community type that fits your lifestyle – here is a look at 12 neighborhood types that will help you decide what is right for you whether you are in Chicago, San Francisco, Dallas or Fort Worth.



**1. Urban Core (Downtown)** - Condos, apartments and skyscrapers in downtown Dallas

**Where to find it:**

Downtown, the heart of major metros

**What you can call home:**

Aging single family homes and apartments, modern luxury lofts and condos converted from old warehouses and multi-use

developments

**Your Neighbors:**

Ethnically diverse mix of young single professionals, low to middle income families and seniors

**Why You'll Like It:**

Affordable housing, eclectic mix of high-end and modest, close to nightlife and city attractions

**Why You May Not:**

Little to no public parking, typically has higher rate of crime, transients



**2. Urban Pioneer (Up-and-Coming)** - Modest, affordable older homes are the hallmark of urban pioneer neighborhoods.

**Where to find it:**

Near downtown and inner-ring suburbs

**What you can call home:**

Fixer uppers, older single family homes ranging in style from ranch to modern, garden-style apartment buildings

**Your Neighbors:**

Ethnically diverse mix of young singles and couples, recently divorced and single parents, aging retirees who have lived in the neighborhood for years, immigrants

**Why You'll Like It:**

Cheaper homes that are likely to increase in value, working-class sensibility, new development

**Why You May Not:**

Construction noise and eyesores, neighbors who can't renovate their homes



**3. New Urban** - Neo-traditional architectural styles are a staple in new urban neighborhoods.

**Where to find it:**

Near a business hub other than the city's main downtown

**What you can call home:**

New single family homes in retro styles, upscale apartments and condos, lofts above businesses

**Your Neighbors:**

Educated, affluent-to-middle income couples with no or few children, young single professionals

**Why You'll Like It:**

Close to work, shopping and nightlife

**Why You May Not:**

Too many hipsters, inflated home prices push some buyers out of the market



**4. Cul-de-sacs & Kids (Bedroom)** - The 'burbs", where yards are green and houses look alike.

**Where to find it:**

Suburbs and new subdivisions

**What you can call home:**

Large single family homes with manicured lawns and privacy fences, tract homes, newly built homes

**Your Neighbors:**

Middle-aged soccer moms and dads whose lives revolve around their children

**Why You'll Like It:**

Lots of curb appeal, playmates for your children, active neighborhood associations and good schools

**Why You May Not:**

You're single or don't have children, not close to city hotspots, too generic



**5. Pedestrian** - Built to a human scale, the brownstone/townhomes neighborhoods are pedestrian friendly.

**Where to find it:**

Small pockets in major metros

**What you can call home:**

Cozy condos and apartments, lofts above businesses

**Your Neighbors:**

Hipsters and single professionals

**Why You'll Like It:**

You don't need a car to get what you need

**Why You May Not:**

Little to no parking, noise, density



**6. Historic** - The past rules in historic neighborhoods that were once the hub of the city

**Where to find it:**

Anywhere

**What you can call home:**

Large, well-preserved, older single family homes known for their architectural styles ranging from Victorian/Queen Anne to Colonial Revival

**Your Neighbors:**

Style-conscious middle-aged couples, aging adults who grew up in the neighborhood, home-improvement buffs

**Why You'll Like It:**

Lots of curb appeal, history and character

**Why You May Not:**

Stringent home maintenance and style requirements



**7. Status/Destination** - A McMansion behind a gate: the essence of the status neighborhood.

**Where to find it:**

In the hills or mountains, by water, behind gates, under the trees

**What you can call home:**

Large, custom-built single family homes and McMansions on the water, in the hills, under the trees, with city views, in gated communities; plush penthouses and lofts in trendy, urban areas

**Your Neighbors:**

Affluent high-powered executives and wannabes, upper-middle income achievers, celebrities, millionaires

**Why You'll Like It:**

Status, exclusivity, privacy, security

**Why You May Not:**

Keeping up with the Jones is hard work



**8. Ethnic** - Chinatown in Chicago or San Francisco are both classic examples of an ethnic neighborhood.

**Where to find it:**

Near downtowns in major metros

**What you can call home:**

Small apartments, older single family homes

**Your Neighbors:**

Immigrants from a particular ethnicity, young couples, budget-conscious singles

**Why You'll Like It:**

Affordable housing, interesting cuisine and products

**Why You May Not:**

If you're not the same ethnicity, you may feel like an outsider



**9. Active/Resort** - Palm Springs, California, is the epitome of an active resort area.

**Where to find it:**

Sunbelt and coastal cities, in the desert, by water or in the mountains

**What you can call home:**

Large single-family homes in newer architectural styles, luxury cabins, upscale condos

**Your Neighbors:**

Affluent and active middle-aged adults and seniors

**Why You'll Like It:**

Outdoor activities to fit your lifestyle, tons of places to get a tan, go fishing or hiking

**Why You May Not:**

You're a couch potato



**10. Golf** – Having dinner watching golfers on the ninth hole

**Where to find it:**

New subdivision surrounding a golf course

**What you can call home:**

Upscale single family homes and condos in mostly contemporary styles

**Your Neighbors:**

Families with young children, retirees, golf fanatics

**Why You'll Like It:**

You love golf, tons of amenities

**Why You May Not:**

You hate golf



**11. Retirement** - A mobile home community in the Sunbelt where retirees go to look for better days

**Where to find it:**

Sunbelt and coastal cities

**What you can call home:**

Small, low-maintenance apartments and condos with all kinds of amenities

**Your Neighbors:**

Empty nesters, single seniors

**Why You'll Like It:**

Weather, organized activities and social events

**Why You May Not:**

You're young and single



**12. Rural** - If wide open spaces and no next-door neighbors are your bag, head to a rural place

**Where to find it:**

Miles from the city

**What you can call home:**

Custom-built homes with lots of acreage and room to grow

**Your Neighbors:**

Nature

**Why You'll Like It:**

Space and privacy

**Why You May Not:**

Far from everything

Now that you know the different types of neighborhoods, click here to read "[5 Steps to find a place where you belong](#)" and find the real estate lifestyle that is best for you.

*To find a real estate professional who can help you get started on your next real estate transaction, contact CENTURY 21 Judge Fite Company today!  
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