BUYREADYHQ WORKSHEET

Comfort Payment Stress Test

Find the monthly housing payment you can actually live with — not just the one a lender approves.

Step 1 — Your take-home income

Source	Monthly (after tax)
Your take-home pay	
Partner/co-borrower take-home	
Other reliable income	
A. Total monthly take-home	

Step 2 — Non-housing monthly obligations

Category	Monthly
Minimum debt payments (cards, student loans, auto)	
Childcare / tuition	
Insurance not bundled with home (health, auto, life)	
Retirement + savings contributions you want to keep	
Groceries, utilities, transportation, subscriptions	
Lifestyle (dining, travel, hobbies)	
B. Total non-housing obligations	

Step 3 — Comfort payment ceiling

A – B = C. Maximum comfortable housing payment: ___________

This is the most you can spend on *everything* housing-related each month — principal, interest, taxes, insurance, HOA, mortgage insurance, utilities, and a maintenance reserve.

Step 4 — Stress test

Scenario	Will C still cover housing?

Rate is 1% higher than today's quote	■ Yes ■ No
Property taxes rise 10% at reassessment	■ Yes ■ No
One income drops for 3 months	■ Yes ■ No
Major repair of $5,000 hits year one	■ Yes ■ No
HOA raises dues 15%	■ Yes ■ No

How to read your results

All Yes: Your comfort payment is resilient. You have room for surprises without derailing your life.

1–2 No: Consider a smaller price range, a larger down payment, or building a bigger reserve before you buy.

3+ No: Your comfort ceiling is fragile. Wait, save more, or reduce fixed obligations before committing.