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**Seven Wonders of the World – Light House of Alexandria**

**By Muthukumar.V**

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This light house of Alexandria was one of the useful of the seven wonders of the world (for the sailors to return to the Great Harbor), which is a small differentiates it, when compared with the other wonders of the world. The mirror which was mounted on this lighthouse could reflect the light more than 35 miles off-shore. Of the 6 ancient destroyed wonders, this was the last to be destroyed around 1480 AD.

Location:

On the ancient island of Pharos, now a promontory on the harbor of the city of Alexandria in Egypt.

Description:

This lighthouse was built around 280 BC and was around 134 m in height. This was built in the city of Alexandria.

The light house had a good mirror which can reflect the sun light to a very long distance. Mythical stories used to say that this mirror was used to burn the enemy ships.

The Macedonian conqueror, Alexander during his successful reign, had tried establishing approximately 17 cities in the name of Alexandria. The only one survived long was the one in Egypt. That too even this city was not completely built by Alexander. The completion of the construction of this city was achieved by his commander Ptolemy I Soter.

Ptolemy connected Alexandria to the Pharos island by a bridge. It was realized that the sailing in this coastal region is very dangerous. That is why he decided to build a light house. This project was initiated during Ptolemy's reign in 290 BC and completed after his death by his son Ptolemy Philadelphus. Sostratus who lived in the same time as Euclid, was the architect. This used to remain in the harbor for centuries. This wonder of the world also depicted in the Roman coins that time.

## Seven Wonders of the World – Light House of Alexandria

The writings of the Arab conquerors are very good source of information about this lighthouse. The new rulers moved the capital to the Cairo. So this place had lost its importance. Three earthquakes struck in various periods (around AD 956, AD 1303 and AD 1323 ) have damaged the lighthouse significantly. The during AD 1480 the Egyptian Mamelouk Sultan, has built a medieval fort at the same place. That was the end to the story of the light house.

There are some more tales to the light house. Sostratus after he completed the lighthouse wanted his name to be carved on the light house. This was not allowed by Ptolemy II Philadelphus. Ptolemy II wanted his name to be carved on the structure. But what Sostratus did is he first carved his name underneath, put plasters on it and then carved Ptolemy II's name. After some years, the plasters worn out and his name has come out to be known to all.

The design of the lighthouse was unlike the modern slim lighthouse towers. This was built in 3 stages, each built on top of the lower.

This lighthouse was so popular that the word Pharos came into French, Spanish and Italian to mean lighthouse.

Muthukumar.V

Seven Wonders of the world – Ancient Times

### **Simple Tips For Showing Your Home**

**By Kirsten Hawkins**

If your home is on the market, it should be available at all times for showing to potential buyers. After all, how else do you expect to sell it? During the time your house is on the market, try to keep it prepared for a showing whenever possible. When you get prior notice that someone is coming to view your home, there are a few simple things you can do to ensure their viewing is a pleasant one.

The number one thing is not to be there. If it all possible, try to schedule showings during times when you're at work, or simply leave for an hour when you know potential buyers are on their way. The reason is obvious: Buyers who are exploring your home will feel like they're intruding if you are there, and they'll want to exit quickly. You want buyers to feel welcome, and to feel as though this house is a place they might be able to call home themselves. Your absence allows them to test their own comfort level in the home.

Take out the trash. This is a tiny tip that works wonders. Even if it's hidden in the cellar, or if the can is almost empty, put a fresh trash bag in before buyers come to look at your home. Aside from eliminating the chance that your house might have a funky smell, this also reduces the "lived-in" look," making it easier for buyers to picture this home as their own. Don't leave out dirty dishes. This is another big "Someone Lives Here" clue that is unpleasant to buyers. If you have a dishwasher, it's fine to pile the dirty dishes inside and close the door (although keep in mind that if the dishwasher comes with the house, they might very well look inside!) But a sink (or, worse, a table) piled with dishes sends the

wrong message.

Open the curtains. This one seems small, but it's not. Even if you don't have much natural light in your home, it's crucial to take advantage of what you do have. Open all blinds fully (unless there's a really ugly view outside) and draw back light-blocking curtains. If you're out of luck and your showing isn't on a sunny day, turn on the lights in every room. You might feel like you're wasting energy, but in reality you're eliminating dark corners and a possibly musty feeling that might come from a house sitting in shadow.

The best way to keep a house prepared for the market is to keep the major cleaning at bay. Wash, wax and vacuum twice a week, and keep it picked up in between. That way, if you get last-minute notice of a showing, you can fix a few details, head out the door, and know that your house is showing its best possible face to the world.

Kirsten Hawkins is a real estate expert from Nashville, TN. Visit

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more information on real estate, mortgages, and finding the house of your dream.

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