



The 10 best real estate books of 2005

Topics cover investing, renovation, reverse mortgages

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At the end of each year, it is my honor to select the 10 best real estate books out of the hundreds of realty books published that year. This article takes 52 weeks to prepare because I read at least one real estate book every week. These are the best of the best 2005 real estate books.

Selecting the top real estate books of 2005 was especially difficult because an unusually large number of new realty books were published this year. All these excellent real estate books are available in stock or by special order at local bookstores, public libraries, and www.amazon.com. Here, in no special order, are the 10 best real estate books of 2005, plus several honorable mentions:

The Pre-Foreclosure Property Investor's Kit, by Thomas J. Lucier (John Wiley and Sons, Hoboken, NJ), \$19.95, 249 pages. This ultra-complete book reveals virtually everything necessary to profitably acquire foreclosure distress properties without making costly mistakes. The author includes the forms he uses when acquiring foreclosures, along with details of how he uses the Internet to locate distressed owners, find property records, search state foreclosure statutes and timetables, plus many other valuable websites, mostly free. Especially valuable, the author shares many personal experiences in this "how to buy foreclosures" book.