

Buying A Property This Year? Don't Forget The Stamp Duty



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As autumn approaches, the end of the stamp duty holiday looms ever closer and those thinking of buying will need to reach a decision of whether to 'use it or lose it'.

Last year the Government announced that it was raising the 0% stamp duty threshold from £125,000 to £175,000 for a period of 12 months. In April's budget, the holiday was then extended to December 31st 2009.

Anyone looking to buy a home worth between £125,000 and £175,000 could save up to £1,750 in stamp duty if they complete before this deadline. Once the deadline is up, properties worth more than £125,000 will once again face a stamp duty bill of at least 1%.

Any saving made could be valuable to many first time buyers already facing the prospect of having to raise a significant deposit and cover other moving costs. Most [mortgage](#) lenders typically require at least a 15% deposit so it is vital to do your homework to get the right [mortgage deal](#)

"As house purchases can take months to complete, it's make your mind up time for those considering buying a property. With house prices now holding up more strongly and in some cases rising, the stamp duty holiday could act as a greater incentive as the deadline approaches" commented David Hollingworth, Head of Communications at L&C Mortgages.

To work how much stamp duty you'll have to pay, use L&C's [stamp duty calculator](#) Buyers should call L&C on 0800 373300 for free, no obligation mortgage advice.

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Notes to Editors:
London & Country (L&C) is the UK's leading no-fee mortgage broker. Based in Bath, it provides whole of market advice via telephone and post to clients nationwide. As well as residential mortgages, it also specialises in the Buy-to-Let and adverse-credit sectors.

L&C is a Climate Neutral company and for the last seven years has invested in climate friendly projects and tree-planting to help offset its emissions and those of its customers. For more information, go to www.lcplc.co.uk/green.

L&C has won numerous awards including:

Best Mortgage IFA/Adviser of the Year – Money Marketing, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2008

Best Technology Adviser – Money Marketing 2007

Best Mortgage Broker outside London – Mortgage Strategy, 2004 and 2005

Best National Broker – Mortgage Introducer 2005, 2006 and 2007

Best Overall Broker – Mortgage Introducer 2005

Overall broker of the year – Pink Home Loans, 2006 and 2007

Top 100 company in the Sunday Times Fast Track 100 for 2004 and 2005

Business of the Year – The Bath Business Awards 2005

Growth Strategy of the Year – National Business Awards (Wales and West) 2008

Business Leader (Broker) – British Mortgage Awards - 2008

Online Mortgage IFA of the Year – Financial Adviser - 2008

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