



Mike Clover's

Weekly Mortgage Newsletter



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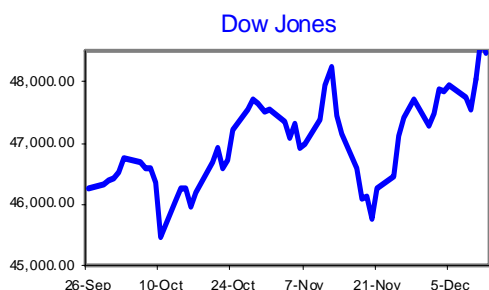
Week of
Dec 15,
2025

Mortgage Market Commentary

Mortgage rates remained rangebound again last week as the Federal Reserve trimmed the Fed Funds rate but appeared ready to keep rates unchanged for some time. The rate cut highlights that the Fed may be slightly more concerned about the flagging labor market than stubborn inflationary pressures. As expected, more Fed members disagreed with the decision. One wanted a larger cut while two believed that the Fed should have left rates unchanged. Fed Chair Powell's post-meeting news conference revealed that the Fed thinks that monetary policy is now near neutral. Additionally, the possibility of any move by the Fed may now be well into next year.

This week, we'll continue the catch-up on economic data with the employment report and the Retail Sales for October, along with the next release of the Consumer Price Index. With Powell highlighting that payroll data could be about 60K higher than reality, any reading below 60K could be seen as negative job growth, which could help push mortgage rates slightly downward.

Stock Market Trend



Don't Neglect Your Homeowners Insurance

Homeowners insurance is more than a lender requirement; it's a financial safety net for your biggest asset. A single fire, windstorm, burst pipe, or lawsuit from an injured visitor can create costs far beyond most savings. The right policy helps pay to repair or rebuild your home, replace belongings, and cover temporary living expenses. Be sure to review your insurance on an annual basis to ensure it covers your needs, as changes in your situation can affect your insurance needs.

Mortgage Rate Watcher

15 Day Rate
Trend

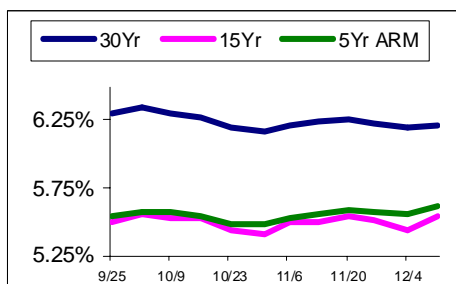


30 Day Rate
Trend



Market
Volatility

High



Worth Remembering

If you wait to do everything until you're sure it's right, you'll probably never do much of anything.

Win Borden

Bonehead of the Week

A "too dumb to be a criminal" bonehead award goes to David Blackmon in Fort Walton Beach, FL. Awakening to find his car broken into, Blackmon phoned the police. As a drug dealer, he let the cops know what had been stolen: drugs and money. Attending police officers looked into the car but let the "victim" continue detailing what was stolen. Indeed, the cash was gone, but the rest of the stash was sitting in plain sight in the car. Blackmon added resisting arrest to his charges when the police began to arrest him.



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