

Showing Me, Showing You: Ask Technical Terry



Ask Technical Terry is a series RMLS™ aims to offer once a month. RMLS™ subscribers will drive the content—submit any question about RMLS™ to Technical Terry in the comments or by emailing communications@rmls.com. Don't be shy—we won't identify you by name.

Dear Technical Terry,

Around the water cooler the other day, my coworkers were abuzz about some form of showing appointment system they think is coming to RMLSweb. Is this true or just a rumor? What can you tell me about it?

Nosy in Newberg

Dear Nosy,

The rumor is true! The RMLS™ Technology Committee advised—and the RMLS™ Board of Directors agreed—that ShowingTime should be integrated into RMLSweb. We anticipate the debut of this new product to coincide with the annual forms change—roughly late April or early May.

RMLS™ subscribers will have access to a free, basic version of ShowingTime through RMLSweb. Here are some of the features:

- Listing agents can configure an online appointment calendar for each listing that will display blocks of time when the listing is available to be shown.
- Three settings can be used for a listing. Appointment Required requires an explicit accept/decline from the listing agent or seller for the showing appointment to be finalized.

Courtesy Call automatically accepts a scheduling appointment, sending a notification to the listing agent/office staff who then notify the seller of the showing. Go and Show is immediately accepted, also sending a notification to the listing agent but without any seller notification required.

- Basic notifications are sent via email, one-way text messaging, and through alerts on the ShowingTime mobile app.
- ShowingCart allows a showing agent to create a tour of listings using an interactive feature on the site. The agent can then submit all the appointment requests in one group once the order is finalized. The agent can even get driving directions for their client tour!
- Basic showing feedback is solicited.
- Listing activity reports are available.

ShowingTime has tech support available via phone, email, and chat seven days a week. They'll be offering webinar training to RMLS™ subscribers before ShowingTime goes live on RMLSweb, with a dedicated training site available after the launch with short video tutorials.

ShowingTime will offer a premium subscription version for RMLS™ subscribers to purchase individually. The premium version will have even more tools including options for more detailed showing feedback and brokerage branding.

Sounds exciting, doesn't it, Nosy? Have a look at ShowingTime online so the next time your coworkers are gathered around the water cooler, you'll be able to teach *them* a thing or two!

Technical Terry

Dear TT,

I'm so excited to come to this year's RMLS™ trade fair in Portland! One of my favorite parts of the event is cruising around the trade fair hall entering drawings. I know there's a trade fair exhibitor list, but will information be posted in advance about the prizes available at the event?

Q. D. McGraw

Dear Q.D.,

I'm so excited to hear you love our annual event so much! I've got some bad news for you though—we do not generally release information about prizes in the on-site drawings in advance of the event. There are several reasons for this, including that we often don't get information about some prizes until a day or two in advance!

Speaking of the prize drawings though, it's worth noting that the system for entering drawings will change this year. In the past, trade fair attendees could take a map to designated vendors for a stamp and every stamp would earn the attendee one entry into the drawing. If you visited four of the six designated vendors to get a stamp, you could return to the RMLS™ booth and give us four business cards to enter into the raffle bin.

This year, attendees will need to visit every designated vendor on the map to earn one entry. This entry will be valid for all the prize drawings that happen at the RMLS™ info booth. In the above example then, you'd need to visit six vendors to submit one card for the drawings.

Why are we making this change? We want to cut down on wasting the business cards you've paid for, for starters. We also wanted to make the prize drawings more streamlined for our staff at the RMLS™ booth as well. Everyone will have an equal chance to win each prize, and by design the prizes will be distributed more evenly among attendees.

We've got some higher-value prizes lined up for this year's drawings, Q.D., so definitely make time in your day to visit the trade fair vendors! And those of you who could care less about drawings, register for classes or our keynote session sooner than later or you could miss out!

T. Terry