


## What is a Buydown?

A buydown is a mortgage financing technique with which the buyer attempts to obtain a lower interest rate for at least the first few years of the mortgage, or possibly its entire life.


## Types of Buydowns

- Temporary Buydown
- Permanent Buydown



## Temporary Buydown

## The Process

- A borrower may elect a buydown fee that adjusts the payment for a TEMPORARY period of time at the beginning of the loan term
- A one-time fee, known as a subsidy fee, applies
- Common options include:
- 3-2-1
- 2-1
- 1-0


## Temporary Buydown

## Example of a 3-2-1 Buydown

Loan Amount: \$300,000

| YEAR | INTEREST <br> RATE | MONTHLY <br> P\&I PAYMENT | MONTHLY <br> SAVINGS | ANNUAL <br> SAVINGS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{4 \%}$ | $\$ 1,432.25$ | $\$ 563.66$ | $\$ 6,763.92$ |
| 2 | $5 \%$ | $\$ 1,610.46$ | $\$ 385.45$ | $\$ 4,625.40$ |
| 3 | $6 \%$ | $\$ 1,798.65$ | $\$ 197.26$ | $\$ 2,367.12$ |
| $4-30$ | $7 \%$ | $\$ 1,995.91$ | $\$ 0.00$ | $\$ 0.00$ |

Typically, the cost of the buydown is roughly equal to the amount the buyer would save in payment.

In this example, the total cost of the buydown (subsidy fee) is estimated to be $\$ 13,756$.

Temporary Buydown
Example of a 2-1 Buydown
Loan Amount: \$300,000

| YEAR | INTEREST <br> RATE | MONTHLY <br> P\&I PAYMENT | MONTHLY <br> SAVINGS | ANNUAL <br> SAVINGS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | $5 \%$ | $\$ 1,610.46$ | $\$ 385.45$ | $\$ 4,625.40$ |
| 2 | $6 \%$ | $\$ 1,798.65$ | $\$ 197.26$ | $\$ 2,367.12$ |
| $3-30$ | $7 \%$ | $\$ 1,995.91$ | $\$ 0.00$ | $\$ 0.00$ |

Typically, the cost of the buydown is roughly equal to the amount the buyer would save in payment.

In this example, the total cost of the buydown (subsidy fee) is estimated to be $\$ 6,992.52$.

## The Process

- A borrower may elect to pay points to PERMANENTLY buydown an interest rate
- Buying the rate down by $0.25 \%$ will typically cost one full point of the loan amount as the buydown fee
- Break-even point should be calculated to ensure optimal benefit



## Permanent Buydown

## Example

- Loan Amount: \$300,000
$\boxed{\square}$ Borrower pays one point, or $\$ 3,000$, to buydown the rate by $0.25 \%$
- At 6.00\%, the P\&l payment would be \$1,798.66
- At 5.75\%, the P\&l payment would be \$1,750.72
- The savings would be $\$ 47.94$ per month
$\square$ The initial investment of $\$ 3,000$ is recovered in about 5 years
$\square$ Savings over the life of the 30-year loan would be \$17,257

The buydown fee can be included in the allowable contributions

## Temporary vs Permanent

- Using a sales price of $\$ 300,000$ and a loan amount of $\$ 285,000$
- Seller is willing to pay $3 \%$ contribution, or $\$ 9,000$

| PERMANENT <br> BUYDOWN* | P\&I PAYMENT | LOAN BALANCE | TOTAL PAYMENTS <br> (CUMULATIVE) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 1 | $\$ 1,754.79$ | $\$ 281,660.38$ | $\$ 21,057.60$ |
| Year 2 | $\$ 1,754.79$ | $\$ 278,105.95$ | $\$ 42,115.20$ |
| Year 3 | $\$ 1,754.79$ | $\$ 274,322.67$ | $\$ 63,172.80$ |
| Year 4 | $\$ 1,754.79$ | $\$ 270,296.19$ | $\$ 84,230.40$ |

*3\% buys down rate by $0.75 \%$ to $6.25 \%$

| TEMPORARY <br> 2-1 BUYDOWN | P\&I PAYMENT | LOAN BALANCE | TOTAL PAYMENTS <br> (CUMULATIVE) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 1 $=5.0 \%$ | $\$ 1,529.95$ | $\$ 282,104.84$ | $\$ 18,359.40$ |
| Year 2 $=6.0 \%$ | $\$ 1,708.72$ | $\$ 279,000.39$ | $\$ 38,864.04$ |
| Year 3 $=7.0 \%$ | $\$ 1,896.12$ | $\$ 275,671.53$ | $\$ 61,617.48$ |
| Year 4 $=7.0 \%$ | $\$ 1,896.12$ | $\$ 272,101.97$ | $\$ 84,370.92$ |

- Total cost of 2-1 buydown is \$4,394.04 + \$2,248.80 = \$6,642.84
- Seller pays buydown plus additional \$2,357.16 toward closing



## Who Can Buydown a Rate?



Builder


Lender*


* As allowed by internal guidelines

Interested-party contribution limits apply


## Buydown Pros \& Cons



Temporary buydowns reduce the interest rate for short time, which results in a savings of money by lowering borrowers' mortgage payments during the initial term.

A buydown may be a negotiation tool that allows you to pay less for the home than the seller's list price.

A buydown is a good financing tactic for homebuyers whose income will increase in upcoming years.

Once the temporary buydown rate ends, the increased monthly payment could result in payment shock.

Buydowns may not be an option for certain loan types or property types. expected, homeowners may struggle to make the mortgage payments.


## Buydown for the Consumer

## Is a buydown right for me?

Depends on the following:

- How long do I plan to own the home?
- Can seller concessions be negotiated?
- Am I comfortable with the risk of the payment increasing?
- Is it likely that my income will increase? Might it decrease?
- Do I anticipate any major expenses - tuition, new car, remodeling?
- What are my payment expectations?
- What are my options? Need to run the numbers with my Loan Officer!


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