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## Renovation Webinar

**Dean Parker & Steve McKnight (Property Investing.com)**

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### Where Elise and Dean's interest in Real Estate began

**Steve McKnight:** Hey, well, let's start at the beginning. Tell me about the first property...Well, even before then, tell us how you started getting interested in real estate.

**Dean Parker:** Elise and I were essentially living in South Bank and had this great lifestyle but we were renting. And I guess the key draw early on was just to try and to get our own place. And we realized that our jobs weren't going to be the answer long-term and it was going to take us too long to be able to keep that lifestyle that we had in Melbourne. The properties that we were looking at buying ran at \$450,000 mark and we just didn't have anywhere near the cash to get into it.

So I guess early on we were looking for an answer of how we could fast track our success or to make more money quickly I guess. So that was the original reason for getting in and then, I guess, as we went along, we realized that we wanted to invest in property as an option. It was back in 2004 when we did attend your master class that we took it seriously. The education we got from you that day, I guess, was the turning point and allowed us to take it on seriously full time.

**Steve McKnight:** Has it been easy?

**Dean Parker:** No, it hasn't been easy, no. We, along the way, we started off by making some sacrifices. Instead of buying a \$450,000 three-bedroom apartment in Melbourne, we ended up buying a little two-bedroom unit in Melton which Elise calls her little, brown, stinky unit. So we made a massive lifestyle change. And along with that, we'd then end up driving three hours a day to and from work, as in three hours per day in total. And amongst other things, I also lost my job. So I guess we had a lot of reasons why we really wanted to make it a must rather than a maybe as someone had said before, I think. That would be you.

**Steve McKnight:** Yeah, that would be me.