

2026  
Investor  
Playbook

# How Real Estate Investors Pull Cash Without Selling

Unlock equity from rental and value-add properties using DSCR and investor refinance strategies — even after rehab.



Free Investor Guide | Presented by REI Axis

# This Guide Is For

This guide is designed for **active real estate investors** who already own property and want to access equity to fund their next move.

Specifically:

## ✓ Rental Property Owners

You currently own one or more rental properties and want to refinance, pull cash out, or restructure existing loans to improve cash flow or acquire additional properties.

## ✓ BRRRR Investors

You buy, rehab, rent, and refinance. This guide shows how investors typically transition from completed rehab to stabilized rental and use the refinance stage to recover capital.

## ✓ Fix & Flip Investors With Stabilized Properties

If your rehab is complete (or close to complete) and the property has increased in value, this guide explains how some investors refinance instead of selling — keeping the asset while accessing equity.

## ✓ Portfolio Landlords

You own multiple properties and are looking for portfolio-level strategies such as consolidating loans, pulling equity across assets, or optimizing leverage to scale more efficiently.

## ✓ Value-Add Buyers With Equity

You purchased under market, improved the property, and created equity. This guide walks through how that equity can potentially be converted into usable capital.

# This Guide Is Not For

To respect everyone's time, this guide is **not intended for**:

## ✗ Wholesalers

If you assign contracts or sell deals rather than owning properties, this content will not apply.

## ✗ Brand-New Investors With No Properties

This guide assumes you already own real estate or have recently completed a rehab.

## ✕ People Just Browsing Rates

This is not a rate sheet or pricing comparison. It focuses on investor refinance strategies, not shopping interest rates.

# Short Overview

If you already own property — or just finished a rehab — this guide explains how investors convert built-in equity into usable capital through refinance strategies, without selling their assets.

The goal is simple:

Help property owners understand when refinancing makes sense, what lenders typically look for, and how investors use this process to grow portfolios over time.

# THE CORE CONCEPT (THE AHA MOMENT)

## The Simple Strategy

Investors who successfully grow real estate portfolios don't rely on selling properties to access cash. Instead, they follow a straightforward process:

**Buy or rehab a property → Increase its value → Refinance → Pull cash → Reinvest**



## How It Works

### 1. Buy or Rehab a Property

- This could be a rental property you plan to hold or a fixer-upper you've just completed.
- The key is that the property either generates rental income or has completed value-add improvements.

### 2. Increase Value

- Through renovation, stabilization, or smart market positioning, the property's value grows.
- Lenders recognize this increased value when assessing refinance potential.

### 3. Refinance

- Instead of selling, investors work with lenders to refinance the property.
- Loan approvals are often based on **property income and equity**, not personal income, making this a tool designed for investors.

### 4. Pull Cash

- Refinancing allows you to access a portion of the equity you've created.
- This cash can be used for additional property purchases, renovations, or other investments — all while keeping ownership of the original property.

## 5. Reinvest

- The real power comes when the cash pulled is used to acquire more properties or improve your existing portfolio.
- Over time, this creates a cycle where each property funds the next investment, allowing portfolios to scale efficiently.

## Why This Matters

- Investors keep their assets while freeing up capital.
- There's no need to sell profitable properties to access money.
- This strategy allows serious investors to **grow consistently**, rather than waiting for market appreciation or selling property by property.
- It naturally pre-qualifies serious owners: only those with stabilized or rehabbed properties and equity will benefit.

## Key Takeaway

Instead of selling to access cash, **refinancing allows you to extract equity while retaining ownership.**

This is the foundation of scaling a real estate portfolio effectively.

# RENTALS VS FIXER UPPERS (IMPORTANT)

## Rental Properties

Rental properties are the backbone of many investor portfolios. They must meet a few simple criteria to qualify for refinance strategies:

- **Leased or Rent-Ready:** The property should either have tenants in place or be ready to rent immediately. Lenders need to see that it generates predictable cash flow.
- **DSCR Loans Based on Property Income:** Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR) loans evaluate the property's income relative to the mortgage payment. This makes your property the key factor — not your personal income.
- **No Tax Returns Required in Many Cases:** Many DSCR lenders approve loans based primarily on property income, allowing investors to access capital without showing personal tax documents.

**Summary:** If your rental property produces consistent income, it's immediately eligible for refinancing strategies that let you pull cash while keeping ownership.

## Fixer Uppers / Value-Add Properties

Properties that have been purchased for renovation or value-add require slightly different preparation, but once completed, they are treated the same as rental properties for refinance purposes:

- **Rehab Must Be Complete:** Lenders need the property in a finished state to assess its stabilized value.
- **Property Must Be Stabilized:** This usually means it's ready to rent or meets market standards post-renovation.
- **Appraisal Determines New Value:** Lenders use an updated appraisal to determine the property's post-rehab value, which sets the refinance limit.
- **Refinance Becomes Possible:** Once the rehab is finished and the property stabilized, you can access the same DSCR or investor refinance options as with a rental property.

## Key Takeaway

👉 Once rehab is finished and value is created, fixer uppers are treated just like rentals for refinance purposes.

# HOW DSCR REFINANCING WORKS

## (*SIMPLE VERSION*)

### What Is DSCR?

DSCR stands for Debt Service Coverage Ratio.

In plain terms:

**"If the property's rent supports the mortgage payment, you may qualify."**

That's the core idea.

Unlike traditional loans, DSCR refinancing focuses on the property, not your personal income.

### What Lenders Look At

With DSCR loans, approvals are typically based on:

- Property cash flow (current rent or market rent)
- Appraised value
- Equity position
- Basic borrower profile

This means:

- Your property performance matters more than your W-2
- The loan is structured around investment assets, not personal paychecks
- It's designed specifically for real estate investors, not owner-occupants

If the numbers work at the property level, refinancing becomes possible.

### Why Investors Use DSCR

Investors use DSCR refinancing to:

- Pull equity from rentals without selling
- Recycle capital into new deals
- Refinance post-rehab properties
- Build portfolios without income-documentation hurdles

**This is a common tool for:**

- ✓ Rental owners
- ✓ BRRRR investors
- ✓ Portfolio landlords
- ✓ Value-add buyers

## **Typical High-Level Features**

(Exact terms vary by lender and property)

- 70–75% cash-out based on appraised value
- LLCs allowed in most cases
- No W-2s or personal tax returns for many programs
- Portfolio friendly, including multiple properties

These programs are structured for investors who already own real estate and want to scale.

## **Key Takeaway**

DSCR refinancing allows investors to access property equity based on rental income — not personal income — making it a practical solution for stabilized rentals and completed value-add properties.

**If you own property with equity and income, this is often the starting point.**



# HOW MUCH CASH CAN YOU PULL?

The amount of cash you can access depends on two things:

1. Your property's new appraised value
2. How much equity you have after rehab or appreciation

Lenders typically allow a refinance up to a percentage of the current value (often around 70–75%, depending on the property and program).

## Simple Example

- Purchase + rehab: \$200,000
- New appraised value: \$300,000

If a lender allows 75% of the new value:

$$\$300,000 \times 75\% = \$225,000$$

That means:

- The new loan could be approximately \$225,000
- After paying off your original costs, the remaining funds may be available as cash out

In this example, the investor potentially recovers their initial capital and keeps ownership of the property.

## The Basic Formula

$$\text{Appraised Value} \times \text{Loan-to-Value} = \text{Refinance Amount}$$

Then:

$$\text{Refinance Amount} - \text{Existing Loan Balance} - \text{Closing Costs} = \text{Potential Cash Out}$$

That's it.

No complicated math.

## What This Means for You

If you:

- ✓ Bought under market
- ✓ Added value through rehab
- ✓ Own rentals with equity

You may be able to convert that built-in equity into usable capital.

If there's no meaningful equity, there's usually no cash-out opportunity.

## Important Note

Not every property qualifies.

Cash-out amounts depend on:

- Final appraised value
- Rental income
- Property condition
- Existing loan balance

This is why a quick property review is the fastest way to get real numbers.

## Key Takeaway

Refinancing works when equity exists.

If your property has appreciated or you created value through rehab, that equity can often be accessed — without selling the asset.

# COMMON DEAL-KILLERS

Even strong properties can fail to qualify if a few basics are missed. Below are the most common issues that prevent investors from refinancing or pulling cash.

If any of these apply, it's usually best to resolve them before moving forward.

## ✗ Refinancing Too Early After Rehab

Many investors try to refinance immediately after finishing renovations. Most lenders require the property to be fully complete and, in some cases, held for a short period before refinancing.

### **Translation:**

If the rehab was just finished, timing matters. Waiting until the property is stabilized can make a significant difference.

## ✗ Property Not Rent-Ready

Lenders expect properties to be livable and market-ready.

If the home still needs:

- repairs
- appliances
- final inspections
- basic finishes

the refinance process typically stops.

**Finished property = financeable property.**

## ✗ Incorrect Lease Amounts

Rental income must be realistic and supportable.

Overstated rent or informal leases often create problems during underwriting. Lenders rely on:

- executed leases
- market rent estimates
- actual rental performance

Inflated numbers delay or kill deals.

## ✗ Underestimating Seasoning Requirements

Some refinance programs require a minimum ownership period before cash-out is allowed.

This varies by lender and strategy.

If you purchased recently, seasoning may affect how much — or whether — cash can be pulled.

## ✗ Not Structuring in an Investor-Friendly Way

Using the wrong ownership structure, mixing personal and business finances, or setting up the property incorrectly can complicate approvals.

DSCR and investor refinance programs work best when the deal is structured clearly from the start.

## Key Takeaway

Most refinance issues aren't about rates.

They're about **timing, property condition, documentation, and structure**.

Serious investors prepare for these upfront — which is why their deals move faster.

# REAL INVESTOR USE CASES

Below are common scenarios where investors use refinance strategies to unlock equity and continue growing — without selling their properties.

These are not testimonials. They are typical situations seen in active investor portfolios.

## **BRRRR Investor Funding the Next Rental**

An investor purchases a distressed property, completes renovations, places a tenant, and refinances once stabilized.

The refinance returns a large portion of the original capital, which is then used as the down payment on the next rental.

### **Result:**

The investor keeps the original property and uses recovered funds to repeat the process.

## **Fix & Flip Investor Refinancing Instead of Selling**

After completing a rehab, a flipper realizes the property now performs well as a rental.

Rather than selling and paying transaction costs, the investor refinances based on the new appraised value and rental income.

### **Result:**

Cash is pulled from the property while converting the flip into a long-term rental asset.

## **Portfolio Landlord Consolidating Properties**

An investor with multiple rentals refinances several properties to improve leverage and simplify payments.

Equity across the portfolio is reviewed, and select properties are refinanced to access capital.

### **Result:**

The landlord frees up cash for acquisitions or improvements while streamlining existing loans.

## **Value-Add Buyer Scaling Faster**

An investor purchases under-market properties, completes targeted improvements, and increases rental income.

Once stabilized, the properties are refinanced based on updated values.

### **Result:**

Created equity becomes working capital, allowing the investor to move into additional projects sooner.

## **Key Takeaway**

These strategies are used by investors who already own property, complete rehabs, and operate with clear numbers.

If you recognize your situation in any of these scenarios, refinancing may be a practical way to access equity and grow your portfolio.

# NEXT STEP

## (*YOUR INVESTOR FUNDING REVIEW*)

### Want Personalized Numbers?

If you already own property and believe there may be equity available, the next step is a quick funding review.

This is a short, focused call designed to look at your specific property — not generic examples.

During this review, we can:

- ✓ Evaluate your rental or stabilized rehab property
- ✓ Estimate potential cash-out based on current value
- ✓ Check basic DSCR eligibility
- ✓ Discuss refinance options available to investors
- ✓ Outline next steps if the numbers make sense

No obligation. Just clear answers based on your situation.

### What to Expect on the Call

This is not a sales pitch.

It's a practical review of:

- Your property
- Estimated value
- Rental income
- Existing loan balance
- Your investment goals

If the deal works, we'll outline a path forward.

If it doesn't, you'll know quickly.

### Who Should Book

This review is best for investors who:

- ✓ Own rental or recently rehabbed property
- ✓ Have equity or created value
- ✓ Are actively looking to scale or redeploy capital

If you don't yet own property or haven't completed rehab, this step may not apply.

## **Schedule Your Investor Funding Review**

 **Schedule Your Free Investor Funding Review**

<https://calendly.com/reiaxisinc>

## **Final Note**

Most investors don't realize how much usable equity they already have.

A short review is the fastest way to find out.



# ABOUT REI AXIS

## About REI Axis

REI Axis works with real estate investors to refinance rental and value-add properties, helping unlock equity and redeploy capital into new opportunities.

Our focus is simple:

- Investor refinance strategies
- DSCR loans for rental properties
- Portfolio-level financing
- Cash-out solutions for stabilized assets

We specialize in working with:

- ✓ Rental property owners
- ✓ BRRRR investors
- ✓ Fix & flip investors with completed rehabs
- ✓ Portfolio landlords
- ✓ Value-add buyers with equity

Every situation is reviewed individually. Our role is to evaluate the numbers, explain available options, and help investors move forward when a deal makes sense.

No pressure. No generic loan pitches.

Just clear guidance based on your property.

## Get Started

If you'd like a personalized review of your rental or stabilized property:

 **Schedule Your Free Investor Funding Review**

<https://calendly.com/reiaxisinc>

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## **Final Note**

This guide is intended for property owners with equity who are actively investing.

If that's you, a short funding review is the fastest way to get real numbers.