

Home Improvement Projects for the First-Time Homebuyer

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Buying a first home is one of the biggest events in the life of any person. For most of us, getting to that point takes several years of patient planning and diligent saving. Setting aside enough money to make the down payment on a home and getting mortgage approval is most people's biggest challenge.

So if you have scaled those stages and taken delivery of the keys to your front door, congratulations are in order. You have joined the ranks of the 65.8 percent of Americans who own the home they live. Now you can check homeownership off your to-do list and move on to the next tremendous item.

But before you do that, there is just one more thing to do. You have to transform your new home into a true reflection of your lifestyle and aspirations. For many first-time homeowners, as [TEJ Rentals](#) explains, this is the most fun part of owning a home and the most expensive.

After spending all that money to get the property, what you are looking for is the easiest way to turn this new house into a home.

If that is true for you, then you will love this list of low budget and high-impact projects. They will speed-up the transformation of your first house into a home.

1. Repaint your walls

Repainting the interior and exterior of your new home is the most cost-effective way to remodel the property. Painting the house will not only change its appearance; it gives you a chance to fix any problems with the walls that you did not [detect during the home inspection](#). To get the most out of a paint job, choose trendy colors that will boost the value of your home. Make sure the colors you choose help the house look more spacious and brighter. They should also highlight the best areas of the property.

2. Change your front door



Along with its exterior and landscape, your home's front entryway helps create a first impression of the property. A front door in bold colors makes an immediate impression. You can update the front door by replacing or simply repainting it. If you choose to repaint, make sure to update the hardware on the door. But don't stop with the front door, think of how to make the whole entryway more attractive. Framing it with brightly colored plants will make it more welcoming. The lights around the doorway are also important. You should update them.

3. Replace lighting fixtures and light switches

Lighting plays an enormous role in creating the overall mood of a room. How rooms are lit influences how spacious and inviting they feel. Good lighting does two things; illuminate and beautify. When updating your home's lighting, strive to meet those two objectives. The lighting system should be diverse enough to cater to the lighting needs of people in various situations. Even when the lights are off, they should serve as décor pieces around the home. Moreover, your light switches should match the color scheme and general design of the house.

4. Update the look of your windows

Another low-cost and high-impact project is updating window treatment. The blinds and curtains on your windows convey a subtle message to visitors. If blinds are minimalist and trendy, they complement your home improvement efforts. Conversely, a [window treatment can diminish the impact](#) of your renovations if their style is wrong. It is better to leave windows bare than have blinds or drapes that do not go with the rest of the home's design. If you choose to leave your windows bare, adding UV protection window film will reduce sun exposure.

5. Repaint or reface kitchen cabinets



Wholesale replacement of kitchen cabinets will be too much at this time. But you can still get the satisfaction of an improved kitchen when you reface your cabinets. That will only change the façade of the cabinets. Alternatively, you can repaint the cabinets to match the new colors of the

kitchen. But while doing this, do not neglect to change the cabinet hardware. Updating cabinet knobs, pulls, and handles can make a world of difference.

6. Upgrade the bathroom

It would be nice to have the plumbing in the home inspected and overhauled. But that is a project for another time. In the meantime, you can make small but effective changes to the plumbing. Start by updating the hardware on your bathroom sink (and the kitchen sink). Install a rainfall showerhead with multiple flow settings and improve the lighting (with emphasis on more natural light). Re-grouting the bathroom tiles will complete the makeover.

Finally, give the landscape a facelift. A low-maintenance way to do this is to add hardscaping features. These will not require you to do more work or spend more money on fertilizers, pesticides, or anything else.