



DIY HOME PROJECTS

FOR THE CREATIVE HOME OWNER

1. PAINT THE FRONT DOOR

The front door is usually the first thing people see when entering your home. Make a great impression with a bright, welcoming front door color.

2. SWAP YOUR SHOWER CURTAIN

Your shower curtain takes up the single largest piece of real estate in the bathroom. So needless to say, swapping it out makes a huge impact for very little money.

3. REMOVE A POPCORN CEILING

Do you hate the look of your popcorn ceilings? Not only are they unsightly, but they're also unsanitary — a veritable landing pad for dust, dirt and cobwebs. Luckily, they're easily removed with the help of a wet/dry vac and a drywall knife. Note: If your home was built before 1979, test for lead and asbestos before starting this project.

4. GIVE YOUR FAN A MAKEOVER

Has your ceiling fan seen better days? Upgrade a boring old fan by coating the blades and metal components with high-heat black spray paint.

5. WOW WITH WINDOW BOXES

Don't forget your exteriors! Add color and interest to the front of your home with DIY

wood window boxes filled with overflowing, seasonal blooms.

6. MAKE IT RAIN

Turn every day into a spa day simply by swapping out your showerhead.

7. MAILBOX MAKEOVER

Boost your curb appeal instantly by giving that old, tired mailbox a quick, inexpensive spruce. Before installing a new mailbox, remember to check with the postal service for current installation guidelines.

8. JUST ADD PLANTS

A cluster of lush, green plants adds instant style to any space, especially when potted in sleek containers and arranged on colorful, thrifted stools.

9. REPLACE OUTDOOR LIGHTING

If you've got 20 minutes and \$40, you can totally transform your home's curb appeal with a new set of outdoor lights.

10. UNDER-CABINET LIGHTING

Set the mood in your kitchen by installing soft, inexpensive lighting under the cabinets.

11. GLAM UP THE GROUNDS

Decorative fence post caps aren't just for

looks — they add years of life to your fence by protecting the posts' end grain from the elements.

12. PAINT YOUR DOORKNOBS

Is your home plagued by dated doorknobs? Consider painting the knobs in your house for the cost of a can of spray paint and a weekend's worth of work.

13. FAKE FANCY YOUR LIGHT SWITCHES

Pick a picture frame that's the same size and color as your switch cover, then attach the frame to the wall with adhesive putty. Pro tip: 3.5" x 5" frames will fit a standard 1-gang switch plate.

14. BEEF UP SECURITY - ON THE CHEAP

Thanks to relatively inexpensive DIY systems, you can install a security camera outside (or inside) that lets burglars know you're watching their every move.

15. SECURITY DECOY DECALS

Thieves look for an easy mark; making your home look tough to crack will encourage them to move on. You can easily put up faux security system decals — a clear deterrent — even if you don't have a system.

16. GET SMART

Technology has brought a lot to home improvement, so why not take advantage? From self-programmable thermostats to camera-enabled doorbells, there are a ton of smart home features that seamlessly integrate into your existing wiring and systems while offering major transformations in terms of your home's energy efficiency and design.

17. MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL

Mirrors bring more light into rooms and make spaces appear larger than they really are. Buy a few mirrors that you really like and hang them in areas that you think could add a dash of brightness.

18. INSTALL NEW HOUSE NUMBERS

If your house has old or faded house numbers on it, purchase some new numbers to spruce up the curb appeal. Try to match your new house numbers with the finish that is on your exterior light fixtures.

19. PLANT A TREE

Planting a tree is one of the most common ways to add curb appeal to your house. Before you plant a tree, consider how big the tree will get and how it will affect your house. If you have enough space, try planting two trees to frame your house or your entryway.

