



Diy Projects To Add Value To Your Home

Whether you're considering selling or not, getting your hands dirty on behalf of your home is always a good idea.

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Homeowners who personally invest in their space are destined for a particular sense of accomplishment and fulfillment that can't be met if the work is outsourced. To learn which home improvement projects are best suited for novice DIYers such as ourselves, [ESTATENVY](#) consulted experts Casey Finn and Bridget Matkovich, founders of [The DIY Playbook](#), on how to leave a lasting impact on a home long after you're gone. The seasoned duo shared these tips on how to best avoid blood, work through the sweat, and bring on only the happiest of tears.

Painting with purpose

We've all heard it a million times, but it still rings true: a coat of paint can make a world of difference in any space. "When I moved into my master bedroom, it was a bright lime green color. Not exactly my favorite! Luckily, I was able to look past the color and see a large room with amazing natural light," Finn said. She went with a light gray hue called 'Gray Owl' by

Benjamin Moore, which completely shifted the feel of the entire space.

“We’ve also used dark paints in our homes to make rooms feel more cozy and intimate. A couple of coats of a fresh, dark hue quickly transforms the look of any space,” Matkovich added.

Creative woodworking

“Our favorite way to add character and style to a home is through woodworking projects,” Finn said. While the pair has done their fair share of crown molding and baseboard installations to customize their spaces, their more creative projects have achieved the biggest visual return on investment. “You can make a builder-basic home look much more high-end with a few simple DIY projects like adding board and batten to a hallway or adding a wood wall treatment to an accent wall in a bedroom,” Finn noted.

Level up the lighting “Replacing outdated light fixtures with contemporary ones can instantly make a room look more modern,” Finn recommended. “Plus, if simply replacing a fixture means there usually isn’t a need for an electrician. Read up on some basic skills and you can replace lighting yourself,” she said.

Finn and Matkovich also stressed the importance of proper window treatments to maximize brightness in a space. They recommended bamboo shades on smaller windows because they add texture and warmth to a space. On larger windows, however, “We opt for extra long curtains hung 4” below the ceiling on a black curtain rod. This draws the eye up and makes the ceilings look higher,” Finn said.

The pair cautioned homeowners about relying on a singular overhead light to illuminate a space. “Incorporating table lamps, sconces, and pendants to add a layered coziness and extra light to each room is a must,” Matkovich said.

Spend a weekend working on your kitchen Being the heart of the home, buyers are always going to judge this important space. Renovations can be expensive, but there are small steps homeowners can take to improve the look of their kitchen without breaking the bank. “Adding a backsplash is always a good idea and this DIY project will only take a weekend to complete,” Matkovich noted. “You can also replace your faucet with a new one. We’re loving matte black lately.”

“If you’re not in love with your cabinets but don’t want to take the time to paint them, upgrade the hardware! You’d be surprised at what a difference new, sleek hardware can make in a kitchen,” Finn added.