



Tips and trends for homeowners, buyers and sellers

Choosing the Right Carpet for Your Home

Carpet remains a popular flooring choice because of its warmth, comfort and sound absorption. Selecting the right type, however, depends on your lifestyle, budget and design preferences. Carpets come in a variety of fibers like nylon, polyester, wool or olefin, and each offers unique benefits.

Nylon is durable and stain-resistant, making it great for high-traffic areas. Polyester is softer and often more affordable, though less resilient over time. Wool provides a luxurious natural option but requires more maintenance. Olefin is budget-friendly and resists moisture, making it a solid choice for basements or playrooms.

Consider these factors when shopping:

- ▶ **Traffic:** Durable fibers for hallways or family rooms
- ▶ **Comfort:** Plush textures for bedrooms and low-traffic spaces
- ▶ **Maintenance:** Stain resistance if you have kids or pets
- ▶ **Budget:** Match fiber type and pile style to what you can spend

Always request samples to see how the carpet looks under your lighting. Consider padding as well—it adds comfort and extends carpet life. The right choice combines performance, style and practicality, giving your home flooring that feels as good as it looks.



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How to Install Window Boxes for Curb Appeal

Window boxes are a simple way to add charm and greenery to your home's exterior.

They're versatile, affordable and perfect for seasonal plants or herbs. Before installation, choose boxes that match your home's architecture and measure the window width so the boxes look balanced. Ensure they have drainage holes to keep plants healthy.

Installing a window box requires sturdy brackets that can support the combined weight of soil, water and plants. Position the box just below the windowsill, making sure it's level before drilling into the studs or masonry. Secure the brackets, set the box in place and fill it with high-quality potting soil.

Tips for success:

- ▶ Use a level to ensure proper placement
- ▶ Anchor brackets into studs for stability
- ▶ Add a layer of gravel for extra drainage
- ▶ Choose sun- or shade-loving plants based on window exposure

Water your plants frequently since window boxes dry out faster than ground beds. Switch up plantings seasonally for year-round color and variety. With a bit of planning and upkeep, window boxes can boost curb appeal and bring a fresh splash of nature right outside your windows.

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HOW TO REUPHOLSTER FURNITURE LIKE A PRO

Reupholstering furniture is a great way to refresh a favorite piece instead of replacing it. It saves money, reduces waste and allows you to customize fabric to suit your décor. While it takes time and patience, basic reupholstery is a manageable project for DIYers with the right tools.

Start by removing the old fabric carefully, saving pieces to use as templates for cutting new material. Inspect the frame, springs and padding—repair or replace anything worn out before moving on. Choose a durable upholstery fabric that complements your space.

Steps to follow:

- ▶ Remove existing fabric and staples with pliers or a staple remover
- ▶ Cut new fabric pieces using the old fabric as a guide
- ▶ Attach fabric with a staple gun, working from the center out for a smooth finish
- ▶ Add trim or decorative elements to cover seams and staples

Take your time with corners and curves for a polished look. Start with chairs or ottomans if you're unsure about tackling large projects like sofas. Reupholstery transforms outdated furniture into something fresh and personalized, letting you enjoy your favorite pieces for years to come.

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