

Inexpensive DIY Home Improvement Projects for Fall

Looking for ways to spruce up your home on a budget? If you're not afraid to get your hands dirty, here are a few simple Do-It-Yourself (DIY) ideas for inexpensive updates you can get started on right away!!

Paint your front door

This is probably the easiest exterior project you can do to increase your home's curb appeal. Fall is usually the perfect time to do it—just be sure to choose a day when temperatures are at least 50 degrees and won't dip lower than 40 at night so the paint can dry properly and won't freeze. Your local hardware or home improvement store can help you choose the right type of paint for your project.



Update cabinet hardware in kitchen and bath

A simple upgrade to cabinet and drawer pulls can instantly glamorize your kitchen or bath. Just make sure you measure the width of your existing hardware before purchasing new ones, and be prepared to touch up small scratches that may occur while removing old hardware.

Make planter posts for outdoor string lighting

Strings of globe cafe lights can and instantly turn any outdoor space into a cool gathering spot. If you don't have a fence or a pergola to hang your lights from, try this [budget-friendly hack](#) that turns wood planter barrels into stylish light posts to add ambiance to your outdoor entertaining space.

Update interior door and window trim

Give doors and windows a fresh makeover by framing them in trendy farmhouse-inspired trim. HGTV provides [step by step instructions](#) on how to complete this easy and affordable project.

Complete a window check-up

Heat escaping from your windows can have a hefty impact on your energy bills. Before the cold weather kicks in, give your windows a quick check-up.

- Make sure the locks are working properly
- Check that weather stripping is intact.
- Touch up any missing or damaged sealing or caulk.

Update outdated Formica countertops with a concrete skim coat

Michele Cumberland from NJM's Corporate Communications Department recently completed this project and was very pleased with the outcome. "We wanted to update our Formica countertops in the kitchen without spending a lot of money on granite or marble," said Michele. She followed the steps in [this blog](#) to easily and inexpensively (under \$150) transform her counters. "The color variations and imperfections in the finished product were exactly what we wanted to give our kitchen an industrial vibe," she adds. "If you're looking for pristine perfection, this is not the project for you. But to us, they are perfectly imperfect."

More hints

Google and Pinterest will help you find many home improvement websites and blogs with budget-friendly fixes you can do yourself. Good luck, and happy DIY-ing!

