

## SPECIAL REPORT

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**SPECIAL REPORT:**

# HOME IMPROVEMENT

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# Table of Contents:

What is Home Improvement?.....	4
Discount Home Improvement .....	5
Home Improvement Books.....	6
Home Improvement Catalog .....	7
Home Improvement Costs .....	9
Home Improvement DVD .....	10
Home Improvement Estimates.....	11
Home Improvement Financing.....	12
Home Improvement Help.....	13
Home Improvement Ideas .....	14
Home Improvement Loans .....	16
Home Improvement Questions .....	17
Home Improvement Supplies.....	18
Home Improvement Tips .....	19
Recommended Resources .....	21

## What is Home Improvement?

Home improvements are basically adding or renovating things in your home. Usually it is carried out by a professional tradesman or handy man but more often people are trying to go it alone to save themselves extortionate fees. When home owners do home improvements they are known as amateurs and it is no longer called home improvement, it is known as DIY (Do it yourself). Bob Villa is one of the most well known authors and television hosts when it comes to home improvement books and television shows; there is also a television show called "Home improvement" which uses this theme for humor, the show stars Tim Allen.

There are lots of different types of home improvement, wallpapering, upgrading units, laying new carpets, transforming cellars and attics into other rooms and adding new extensions on to the house are just some of the types of home improvement that you can do.

Many people often get confused between home improvement and home repair; they are both different from each other. Home repair is basically finding problems then fixing them. Most repairs are do it yourself kind of things but sometimes, just occasionally may be your pipes will burst and you will need to call in the professionals! Home improvement on the other hand is bettering your home, adding new things to it, changing the style of it or just adding a bit of a theme to it.

When people embark on a home improvement project they more often than not draw up a financial plan of some sort, basically this is to save them money. If you don't have a budget then you are likely to spend much, much more than you need to! Often money can be saved by purchasing things that have promotional

offers on them such as half price offers or buy one get one frees. These are the best things you can do to save you some money!

Before starting out on any home improvement project make sure that you have the basics covered; you know what you want done! You can afford to have it done! And it's going to be done in a set amount of time! These points are essential in a project, but most of all make sure at the end of it you have the home that you want, not someone else's idea! Make your home suit you!

## **Discount Home Improvement**

Home improvement can be expensive at the best of times so finding somewhere that offers home improvement discounts is essential. Budgeting is also crucial in the quest for a newer and improved home! People are always striving for better and there is no reason why their home should be left behind. Many people want the best car, the best children, the best job and the best house is no different!

Discounts in anything related to home improvement is brilliant if you can find them. Local hardware and home decorating stores often have promotions and discounts available, for example buy one get one free, or three for the price of two; these types of offers are very common in most stores. Discounts are also available through competitions, you have to win of course but you don't always have to come first, usually second and third get a prize too.

When improving your home you have to keep in mind a set amount that you are willing to pay to get what you want, there is no point spending a fortune and still not having everything that you need or that you would have liked in your house so a plan of action would be a great idea!

When writing your budget take into consideration the problems that could arise money wise so put more in your budget but also be aware that there are discounts and promotions available in many stores so you will definitely save some money somewhere along the way! Don't always think that you have to spend thousands and thousands of dollars to get what you need because that is not the case!

Home improvements discounts are even easier to find on the internet so don't forget to give that a shot as well! Discounts as I said can be anything but the discounts you are more than likely to be free postage and packaging, most items are cheaper on the internet than if you were purchasing in a local store so you are saving on costs straight away! If you can't be bothered visiting the shops and standing around for ages waiting on the wife choosing the perfect tiles, sit her in front of the computer and leave her to it. Always be on the look out for discounts, there's nothing better than a good bit of bargain hunting now is there?!

## Home Improvement Books

Home improvement books are just as common as magazines and catalogues. They are not full of the same information though, they tend to stick on true stories or architectural designers stories! Home improvement books are more than light reading in fact I would consider them heavy reading especially for those who want a project to be simple splash of paint. If this is the case then don't bother purchasing a home improvement book as it is a waste of money and time reading it.

The books that are usually on sale are by pure professionals and no less. They go into extreme detail how they managed to get their projects completed, how

they paid for it and how much it cost them in total. Books are more for people with an interest in home improvement and who use it as a hobby, books are not recommended for those who just want to do some improvements to their homes, reading the book will just completely put them off and make them change their mind.

The avid home improvement reader will know who all the top authors are and the top titles, so I don't have to do into detail about them, but what you do need to know is that these books are extremely detailed and long to read, you have to really love the subject to read about it, otherwise there is not much point in buying one as you will get a few pages in and fall asleep, unless of course that it what you are after...a bed time story?

Home improvement books are like gold for home improvement enthusiasts! They thoroughly enjoy reading the content and well who can blame them, everyone to their own I suppose! Just remember this though that these books are NOT for the small projects people, these books will only bore and tire you, these are for people who want to do full blown house building and extensions! If you want something to help you along with smaller projects then invest in a small magazine or a catalogue just don't invest in one of these books as it will definitely put you off home improvements!

## **Home Improvement Catalog**

We are always looking to come up with new ways to improve the homes in which we live. Whether this is by installing new extensions in the house or new rooms there is always something that you can do to make your home perfect. Perfect is what you think it should be not anyone else's idea of perfect. That's why there are many home improvement catalogs out there. They show pictures and prices

of lots of different things that can be done with your home and new inspiring ideas.

Home improvement catalogs are perfect for every home owner wanting to make those little or large adjustments to their home. They are inexpensive and sold in almost every paper shop and supermarket. They are full of handy helpful hints, tips and advice to help you succeed in making your own dream home.

Home improvement could be as simple as re painting or decorating your hallway, or something as extravagant as adding a garage or extra bedroom or even an en suite bathroom to your home but you can be assured that a home improvement catalog will be full of ideas and stories of success.

These catalog are an ingenious way to get many peoples points across that home improvement and re decorating does not need to be expensive and inside these catalogs there are pages and pages of great ways to save money when doing up your home. Creating a great atmosphere does not have to mean spending a fortune, some candles and a sprinkling of potpourri always work a charm!

Home improvement catalogs also show local business men who come highly recommended. They are best to use because they have had reviews written about them and they are featured and have been used before so you know you are getting a good deal!

When choosing a home improvement catalog always choose the style that suits you, whether that be a home style make over or make your own shelves type of catalog. Each catalog is unique and has lots of advice so this is truly a great purchase for any home improvement maniac or beginner.

## Home Improvement Costs

Home improvement costs can be quite steep but by following a few simple steps you can help to cut the costs and save your self a fortune. Budgeting is very important when it comes to home improvements as many people find themselves constantly spending money even though the project is just almost done! Always try and spend as much as you can on materials though but don't be silly with the money, materials follow the law that if it is expensive it is good! Although it may not be worth what you are about to pay for it and you can probably find it cheaper elsewhere but if it means that then its going to be better than the cheaper item sitting next to it!

Budgeting is crucial, always budget for more than you are willing to spend that way if something comes up like an extra cost somewhere or something was more work than was thought out then you are prepared for it. If you don't budget then you will keep on spending and keep on forgetting where all the money is going. It is always the little things that bite you in the backside, little things like wallpaper expenditure and tiling are usually always forgetting about so make sure you are not part of the norm.

Home improvement costs are easily cut down by making sure you only buy what you need, there is no point purchasing something that you're never going to use. That would just be silly and wasting money! Costs are a very if not the most important factor in any home improvement project basically because you need money to get the job done, you cant get anything for free these days but you can minimize on the cost of things by a great deal by budgeting!

At the end of the day you don't have to go for the most expensive bath suite of the nicest plushiest carpet, all you have to do is make sure that your home is what

you want and is comfortable for you and you family to enjoy it, sometimes money is power but not always and home improvement is in the not always category! That of course is the main part of any home improvement project.

## Home Improvement DVD

A home improvement DVD is very likely to contain either software or a film showing you how to carry out major home improvement challenges. The DVD should state what kind of machine to play it on whether that is a computer or a DVD player. You can pick up home improvement DVD's from your friends, family, neighbors and local shops very easily and cheaply depending what it is about and how new the software is, if it is software.

A home improvement video is a lot easier to understand than the software, it shows you tips and advice and how builders get on with their work, they show you how to help the process along and what you should expect when you turn your home into a building site. The film is generally an hour or so long depending on the project and it never goes step by step they usually cut bits out which is not so good when it comes to you copying the plan of action in the film, but well, problems arise with everything so why should home improvement be any different. Just make sure that you watch the whole video before attempting any of the ideas, you wouldn't want to attempt an idea and not know the next thing you're supposed to do, that would lead to a disaster.

When purchasing a DVD that contains a lot of software on it, you have to use that DVD on your computer, this then lets you perform lots of different scenarios about the different projects you would like to do. It outlines what needs to be

done and also lets you do some technical drawings such as plans and architectural ideas!

Home improvement DVD's are a great way to source a lot of information that available to people who want to do home improvements. They provide lengthy and intricate details on the way that home improvement projects should be carried out and offer the best advice on where to get services in your local area. A lot of information can also be found on the internet of course. It's the world's largest information bank! You have a library at your finger tips so why not take advantage of it! It may save you a lot of hassle and trouble!

## Home Improvement Estimates

Many home improvement companies offer services such as evaluations which they then come out and inspect what you want done, they then take that information back to their office or wherever they are going to analyze it and then come up with an estimate of a price. All companies should offer free estimates and there is no way that you should pay for one, people that ask for payment are generally scammers and should not be let off with it, whatever you do, do not give these people money as you will never see them again!

Home improvement estimates are a great way of seeing how much money you should be paying for a job that you want done, if several companies come back with roughly the same figure then you know that is generally how much you should be paying. Always make sure you get several different quotes. If not then you could be paying too much for a job that may be only costs half the amount that you are paying.

Estimates are crucial for any home improvement job. It lets you see how much you should put away for your budget, always put away more than what the estimate is as it is only an estimate, things could come up during the home improvement project that was unexpected and could cost you a pretty penny!

Home improvement estimates are the general guide that you are to follow when making a budget plan for doing some improvements to your home! A budget is crucial in the home improvements process, it saves you from overspending and sometimes it can help you with the saving aspect too. It's always the little things and details that get forgotten or that pop up during home improvements that cause the most harm during a project. When you budget it is important to remember that not all of it is going to be spent so don't get too down hearted as you probably will have some left if you plan your improvements carefully.

At the end of the day home improvements are supposed to better where you live and make you feel more comfortable in your own home, so why fuss about spending that little bit extra on what you really want, after all there is nothing wrong with luxury!

## Home Improvement Financing

Loans are the easiest way to finance your home improvement projects. Financing is not difficult if you are working and you are able to afford repayments on a loan. You don't have to be squeaky clean to get credit anymore which is fantastic as that opens up a lot of options for people who have had bad experiences with credit in the past but are ready to make amends! Home improvement financing is one of the more important parts of the project and needs to be sorted out one hundred percent before venturing into any home improvement project!

You can't get anything for free these days and of course why should home improvement be any different! Financing is serious and should be given the utmost consideration and thought before embarking on taking out any loans especially if they are secured on your home or your car! You can lose everything if you can't keep up with the repayments so make sure that is the first thing that you do. There is no point investing all the money that you have borrowed into your home only for your home to be taken off you because you couldn't repay the money that you borrowed!

Financing is a serious responsibility. Loans and the like are only available to those who are over the age of eighteen as this is deemed as credit and the law states that you are an adult and allowed these things when you hit eighteen! Of course the law in the USA states you are not an adult until you are twenty one but you are still allowed to access credit facilities!

Home improvement financing is easy to come by if you are old enough and of course have some money coming in. Home improvement financing is now easier than before so there is no reason why you should be putting off your projects as they can easily be carried out with the littlest of hassle!

## Home Improvement Help

Help can be found easily when it comes to home improvements. You can hire a local handy man to come and help you or you can pull in some favors from friends and family members, either way it is very easy for help to come and guide you through your project. It doesn't just need to be family or friends that help you can also hire some professionals, of course you are more likely to pay them a

heck of a lot more than you would some friends and neighbors. Both way you look at it, help is always available and of course in this day and age it is available twenty four hours a day, seven days a week and three hundred and sixty five days a year!

Help can be in the form of people or of course you can turn to technology! You can either use television, computers or even state of the art tools to get your work done. They are all great ways to help you in your quest for home improvement. Many people are looking for the best way to do up their home and everyone gives different ideas to everyone else. You can only choose the help that suits you though, don't invite any one along that is going to jeopardize the timeframe or the work that is going to be completed. Also when watching a DVD about home improvement don't change your mind half way through the project that you want it done another way instead of the way you had originally planned as this will make your hired help not in the best of moods!

Help is of course like I said very easy to find and of course you can get cheap labor slapping your mates on the back asking them for a favor so why not try that approach rather than contracting some very expensive professionals to get the work done for you! It is always cheaper in the long run to employ some friends and neighbors instead of contractors as you have to pay for their over priced labor charges and material charges. At the end of they day if you can't be bothered with all the hassle of hiring some help then just go for it alone, you may find out that it would probably be quicker than putting up with everyone else's demands and you will also get exactly what you want done without splashing out some extra cash!

## Home Improvement Ideas

Struggling to think of new ways to spruce up your home? Think the place needs a good make over? Well you have to get some good ideas; maybe you could get some from friends and family?! But make sure that when carrying out these ideas that they are what you want. You are the one that has to live in the house every day, so you are the one that needs to like the ideas!

Home improvement ideas are very easily to come by, they are available in large quantities from friends, family and neighbors not to mention you have all the home improvement channels and documentaries that are available everywhere! If you are going to use any of the ideas try it out in a small area of the house first, just to make sure that you like it, no point redoing the whole house then deciding that it's not your style and have to start all over again!!!

Any idea is a good idea if you like it, if you only want to create a nice atmosphere you don't have to spend a lot of money, but if your going to re do the whole house be prepared to spend a fortune, fitted kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms prices are on the rise and are becoming quite expensive.

Ideas range from laying a new carpet, slapping a new coat of paint of the walls to purchasing a marble bath suit or transforming your bathroom into an en suite. There are always shortcuts to save money and I would advise these on the smaller home improvement ideas and projects but not the big one. With this type of market you get what you pay for and I would definitely recommend paying as much as you could afford for a great looking room!

Home improvement ideas are flying around all over the place and should all be listened to as some of them may be old fashioned but they do work and are a great resource for doing home improvement projects. Improving your home does not need to be a grueling task! With some fun ideas you can make it into a wonderful project that you don't want to end!

## Home Improvement Loans

Entering into any loan agreement is a hard decision to make especially if it is a secured loan! You have to make sure that you can afford the repayments and not fall behind or your house is in jeopardy. Home improvement loans are very common as people are always wanting to better where they live. They can be used for installing a new heating system, a drive way or a fitted bathroom, kitchen or bedroom!

Many people who are after a home improvement loan go through a broker to get in touch with the best possible deals and loan providers. Brokers search all the available loan companies to see who would give you the best deal for the amount of money you would like to borrow. Obviously the loan company with the lowest APR is the best choice!

Home improvement loans can be used for just about anything whether they are used for fitting extensions on the side of your house or if you simply like to replace the old heating system. Many loan companies do ask what type of home improvement you are making so they know whether you are over borrowing or not. Most loans are secured on your house and are called secured loans; unsecured loans are for people with squeaky clean credit scores.

With at least 60% of people in at least \$10,000 worth of debt loans are closely monitored, all your transactions with financial companies such as credit cards, loans and mortgages are recorded on your credit file. Companies can then look over these files and see if there are any defaults or non payment terms listed and from the information that they gather from your credit file they then decide

whether it is a safe option to provide you with a loan. Many people suffer from bad credit due to unfortunate events in their past, but loan companies are now offering these types of consumer loans but with much higher rates of interest.

When considering a loan the most important thing you can do is make sure that you can afford the repayments or you could lose your home and everything in it! Taking on a loan is a serious decision and all parties involved need to agree. Once the ball is in motion all you have to do is sign the dotted line and wait for the check to come through and get that beautiful kitchen, bedroom or bathroom that you have always wanted!

## Home Improvement Questions

Many people who have home improvement questions ask friends or family or even neighbors but what do you do when they are not around? You can't very well ask someone who is not there. So who do you turn to in your time of need? Well, when you have a question there are lot of different options when a real person isn't around. Firstly you can read up about home improvement in a book or magazine, secondly you can flick through a catalogue and hope they have answers to your questions or you can jump on your computer and go to the good old reliable internet. There is a world waiting at your fingertips and no doubt that the internet has all the answers to your questions.

Books, magazines and catalogues are only updated and published weekly or monthly, so you can be sitting there with this week's edition of the "home improvement" magazine and it doesn't have the answer to your questions and it is another week or month until the next one comes out. But that option of course

is not good to you, you have half started a job and can't remember how to finish it, you obviously can't just leave it incomplete for weeks on end!

The best option is the internet. It's full of information on anything and everything so you are absolutely sure to find an answer to any question you have! Home improvement questions are asked by thousands of people each day and they always log off the internet leaving very happy and of course knowing the answer to their question. The internet has vast amounts of information on any topic or subjects in the world so a question based on home improvement is sure enough to find at least one hundred answers! Home improvement questions are asked by everyone, not everyone knows the answers to everything! Sneaking onto the internet seeking answers is those men who think they can do the job then get half way into it and realize that he doesn't know how to do the job and is scared to ask the wife what to do!

So when a family member isn't around or your neighbors have popped out for the day just log on and access millions of pieces of information all at the click of a button, the information is fast, free but not often very reliable; but well at least you are getting your question answered!

## **Home Improvement Supplies**

When doing any kind of home improvement it requires supplies! They can be purchased anywhere though, so you don't have to worry about where you are going to get them. Supplies can be anything from tea light holders to a brand new bathroom suite. They should all be available at your local hardware, home decorating or crafts store. Depending on what home improvement supplies you

purchase your cost will vary greatly. Obviously a new kitchen or bathroom is going to cost a lot more than a set of candles or a new carpet.

Home Improvement supplies are not only limited to buying in shops but you can also purchase them from the internet. Be careful when using the internet; make sure that the online shop that you are buying from has a lot of reputable feedback and has plenty references. Many people on the internet are not who they claim to be. Internet shops are always cheaper than buying from your local store but you usually have to pay for postage and packaging which can be expensive depending on the size, shape or weight of the item or items that you are buying.

Home improvement supplies are of course essential when it comes down to the actual job. Make sure when you are purchasing your supplies that they are what you want and not what the professional contractor is pushing you to buy. If he or she is pushing then it probably means there is a cheaper alternative, probably a few pages ahead of the one that you are looking at in their magazine.

Generally supplies are the main things when it comes to home improvements as you can't improve anything without something else, now can you? Exactly! So, when purchasing your supplies, whether they are from an internet website or a local crafts shop all you need to do is make sure that they are what you want and you feel that they will be improving your home! There is no point spending money on things that are not to your taste and will make your house appear no different than it already is, the aim of the game is to improve!

## Home Improvement Tips

There are thousands of home improvement tips available from friends, family, books, television and even the internet. Tips are a great way to find out what way to re decorate your home if you have decided on some home improvement. Many magazines and television channels are jam packed with all different sorts of tips, whether it is building a new part of the house or just some simple styling.

Tips can come in the form of some warm advice from friends and neighbors or as some good techniques and drawings illustrated in magazines. They are all over the place, you just need to know where to look. In the UK the biggest home improvement conquests are home styling. People aren't just adding driveways and extra bedrooms onto their homes, they are looking for new ways to make their homes comfortable and stylish places to live.

Whereas Americans are all for the lets knock down the house and build another one type of home improvement they are all full of radical and insane but effective ways of home improvement! They see this as a special and life changing project! In the UK home improvement is not attempted by anyone less than a professional!

When reading home improvement tips, try a few of them. You never know it may sound a bit strange in the idea but it could very well work for you and your home. You never know until you try! Only do something radical if it is something that you really want, small changes are ok to do but a big change is a big responsibility. You have to make sure that you can afford to do it and you are going to like the end product.

Home improvement tips are a fantastic way to get your stylish side out of the closet and into action. Don't get stuck behind with old designs and out of date homes, spruce up your home life and let your house do the talking!

## Recommended Resources

1) [\*\*Forceful Insecticides Home Made Formula.\*\*](#)

Discover Secret Information that Big Multinationals Don't Want You to Know!

2) [\*\*Mortgage Cycling Revealed.\*\*](#)

Affiliates Earn \$31.00. Patent Pending Mortgage Reduction Program Quickly Builds A Minimum Of \$40,000 Worth Of Home Equity.

3) [\*\*A Second Home In New Zealand.\*\*](#)

Unique guide reveals insider secrets on how to migrate, live, work or invest in New Zealand the smart way.

4) [\*\*Feng Shui Secrets Revealed.\*\*](#)

This is a very successful and highly effective template on how to Feng Shui your home that's been proven and tested by thousands.

5) [\*\*Mortgage Loan Tips.\*\*](#)

Why some people almost always get the lowest interest rate on their mortgage - for the least points - and No Junk Fees!

6) [\*\*LandlordGuide.com.\*\*](#)

The Electronic Success Guide for Landlords and home of The Complete Landlord e-Guide.

7) [\*\*For Sale By Owner Help.\*\*](#)

The secrets to selling your home yourself in 1-6 weeks without an agent and saving Thousands in real estate commissions.

8) [\*\*Start A Cake Decorating Business.\*\*](#)

Home business creating wedding cakes recipes and samples included.

9) [\*\*Start A Home Craft Business.\*\*](#)

Sell your crafts using the techniques in this eBook.

10) [\*\*Home Crafts Work-At-Home Catalog.\*\*](#)

Work-At-Home Catalog. Make Art & Crafts in the comfort of your own home. It's Fun & Very Profitable, Us\$5,000 a month.

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