



Home Improvement Projects to Boost Your Value and Whether to DIY or Hire Pros

Tackling home improvement projects is what owning a home is all about - the slow, steady betterment of your house is not only fun, but it's vital to keeping your home's value on the rise. Some projects raise the value of your home more than others, however. Here are some of the top value-boosting projects and whether they are DIY-friendly, or better left to the professionals.

Bathroom remodel

[According to](#) estimates, a bathroom remodel that involves new tile, new fixtures, a new shower unit, and a new sink, tub, and toilet will cost around \$16,000 for a 5x7 bathroom and give you around a 74% return of investment. Of course, if you take this to the next level and move a wall for more space, these figures will increase. Unless you are adept in plumbing, replacing toilets, sinks, and tubs can be tricky, and mistakes can lead to pretty big messes. Tiling is well within the reach of a normal DIY'er, but if you aren't confident you can make it perfect, and perfection counts for you, it's probably best to let the pros handle it.

Landscaping

If you want to add a lot of value to your home without spending too much, head outside for a little landscaping.

“Landscaping is one of the most valuable home improvements you can make ... updating your ‘curb appeal’ is generally one of the least expensive ways homeowners can enhance the overall value of their home ... Any improvements to the exterior of your home, especially the landscaping, will not only add value to your home but the curb appeal alone will get prospective buyers gawking,” [notes](#) FortuneBuilders.com.

Landscaping that involves some weeding, trimming, planting a few dozen annuals, and even transplanting bushes or trees is a perfect DIY project. Really, unless you’re planning on spending tens of thousands of dollars for professional-level landscaping, this is always a DIY project that the whole family can participate in.

Knocking out a wall

[Knocking out a wall](#) in your home to create a more open floor plan, create flow between rooms, and add more natural light is a great way to boost value. As with many home improvement projects, however, it sounds easier than it really is.

Walls can be load bearing, meaning the integrity of your home depends on them. Walls can also contain plumbing, HVAC, and electric. This means, for any given wall removal, you could need as many as 4 specialists or a couple multi-talented general contractors. Not only that, but you’ll need [help moving](#) large items both pre and post demo. Unless you really know what you’re doing, this is a project too advanced for DIY.

Building a deck

Decks have one of the best ROI of all home projects, and if you have the time you can DIY.

There’s no denying that a professional deck builder will be able to build your deck faster and with more perfection than you, but you can save a good amount of money if you do it yourself. Building a deck may be one of those home projects that could benefit from a combination DIY and professional approach.

Certainly not all of your home improvements projects have to be huge value boosters - sometimes you want to get your DIY on for the fun and personal satisfaction of making your home a better place. But there are certain projects that will provide a better return on investment. When considering these, make sure you’re realistic about your skill level and don’t be too proud to seek out the professionals when it’s appropriate.

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