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# HOMEOWNER'S



# **Bathroom Updates Done in Less Than a Day**

Revamping your bathroom doesn't have to mean a full-scale renovation. Instead, think of it as a spa retreat in the making, with a few quick and easy updates that promise maximum style and minimal mess. If you want to update your bathroom without the hassle of a costly and time-intensive remodel, consider these fun, easy and fast DIY ideas.

#### Decor

Update bathmats and towels with new, coordinating pieces to evoke a spa-like atmosphere. Bring in plants that thrive in humid environments, like spider plants or snake plants, or opt for faux plants if your bathroom lacks sunlight. Continue the spa look with reusable soap and lotion dispensers, and place floss picks, cotton balls and other personal care items in stylish, coordinated containers for a touch of sophistication.

#### Walls

Install beadboard paneling, peel-and-stick wainscoting or vinyl wallpaper for eye-catching texture. Paint a bold circle or geometric shape around a mirror for a quick pop of color. Gather an assortment of old frames and artwork to create a unique gallery wall for an added dash of personality.

#### **Hardware**

Switch out your shower curtain and rod with contemporary options. For a more dramatic change, move the shower rod up and opt for a floor-to-ceiling curtain, giving the impression of a larger space. Install new cabinet hardware, or go eclectic with mix-and-match knobs and pulls. Update older light fixtures for a striking new look, and add shelving to create dimension and gain storage.

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## **Home Coffee Bar Ideas**

Transform your morning caffeine routine with the cozy feel and convenience of a dedicated coffee bar in your kitchen. Turn a mobile cart, distressed dresser or unused counterspace into the best place to brew.

#### **Dishes as Decor**

Elegant cups or quirky mugs add to the aesthetic of a coffee bar. To conserve space, place them on a

standing mug rack or hang them on hooks — either on the wall or on the underside of a cabinet.

#### **Elevated Station**

Utilize vertical wall space above your coffee maker. Add floating shelves made from thick rustic wood or sleek modern metal. Top them with stylish canisters or baskets filled with sweeteners, spices and powdered creamers.

#### **Orderly Access**

Organize the area by storing your coffee, filters and stirrers in drawers or cabinets. Keep flavored syrups next to your coffee maker so you can easily add a delightful coffeehouse flair to your morning drink.

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# **Home Safety Checklist**

A safe, secure home fosters an atmosphere of ease and well-being. Make safety a top priority with these tips to protect your family from potential hazards.

- Store a fire extinguisher in an easy-to-access location.
- Test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors regularly and replace every 10 years.
- Inspect appliances for frayed electrical cords and other damage.
- Locate and test water shut-off valves.
- Have your HVAC system and water heater inspected every year.
- Change air filters on a regular basis.
- Create an emergency escape plan in case of fire.
- Clean and inspect rain gutters and downspouts.
- Trim trees away from the house to help prevent damage from storms.

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## **Functional Decor Is In**

If your home feels more chaotic than comfortable, perhaps it's time to rethink your interior design. Set yourself and your family up for success with functional decor.

**Factor in your family's needs.** Is the dining table a place for meals and together time, or is it a drop zone for clutter? Does your guest room double as an office or workout space? Do the kids keep toys in their rooms or leave them scattered all over? Identifying your home's needs can help you make a foolproof plan.

**Seek out storage solutions**. Clutter and messes can make any space feel disorganized. Prioritize storage needs in each room and build from there. Side tables with drawers, baskets for blankets and toys, or an entry table with a built-in shoe rack can be the building blocks of a useful room. Multifunctional furniture, like lift-top coffee tables, ottomans with built-in storage or a sofa bed, allow areas to work for a variety of needs.

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# **Chicken Mango Tacos**

## **Ingredients**

2-3 large chicken breasts 6 white corn tortillas Red cabbage, thinly sliced Cilantro, chopped

## Marinade

½ cup orange juice ¼ cup lemon juice ¼ cup lime juice ¼ cup olive oil 5 cloves garlic, minced 1 tsp. dried oregano ½ tsp. cumin 2 tsp. salt

Mango Salsa 2 mangos, cubed ½ onion, diced 1 bell pepper, diced 2 cloves garlic, minced 1/4 cup lime juice

## **Directions**

In a large bowl, combine chicken and marinade, then cover and let sit for 30 minutes. Preheat grill to 400° F. Cook chicken for 5-7 minutes on each side. Remove from grill and let rest for 10 minutes. Stir salsa ingredients in a medium bowl, add salt to taste. Grill tortillas for 30



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