

RE/MAX Green Checklist for Home Owners



Want to green your home to market its amenities to eco-conscious buyers? Or are you looking simply to lessen your home's carbon footprint? Here's a checklist of items that will help bring your home up to a greener standard. These are just some of the practical, easy fixes you can do to make your home more eco-friendly for your family or potential buyers.

Plug air leaks



Use weather stripping and caulk to help save money on heating and air-conditioning bills and more. Common leaks occur around windows, doors and other wall penetrations.

Tune up your HVAC system



Get a checkup every two years to make sure it's running efficiently. Clean the filter monthly during times of peak usage.

Choose ENERGY STAR® appliances



These appliances sometimes cost more, but reduce your energy bill by \$50 annually for each appliance. Also, many electric utility companies offer purchase incentives.

Use natural flooring, cabinetry



Flooring made from rapidly renewable resources, such as cork or bamboo, and native woods for furniture or cabinetry are greener and stylish.

Reduce water use



Inside, install aerators to your sink faucets and change to low-flow showerheads. Motion-activated toilets or faucets can minimize water usage and waste. Outside, native plants, xeriscaping and turf grass also reduce water consumption.

Explore solar power



Use it to create electricity, heat water and improve indoor lighting. The U.S. Department of Energy can help you find the right solar solutions for your home.

Switch to CFL bulbs



Compact fluorescent light bulbs can be a huge energy saver and typically have a longer life than other bulbs. Replace some (or all) of your regular bulbs with CFLs.

Use low-VOC products



Switch to products, such as paint and carpeting, that don't give off volatile organic compounds, or VOCs. This will greatly improve your indoor air quality and protect your health.

Plant shady trees



Save money on heating and air conditioning bills while providing beautiful views around your home. Also, using native plants can mean less need for water, fertilizer and pesticides.



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