

# YOUR HOUSE YOUR HOME

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO CENTRAL ALBERTA REAL ESTATE

JANUARY 18 2019

Central Alberta's  
**OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS**  
inside



**NADINE MARCHAND**  
Associate

403-342-7700

*See page 16 for more details*



Royal Carpet Realty Ltd

## **OPEN HOUSE:**

**Sat, Jan. 19, & Sun, Jan. 20, 1-5 pm**  
24 Lundberg Crescent, Red Deer

## **EDGEhomes SHOWHOME**

Stunning 1545 sq. ft. modified bilevel, open floor plan with 3 bdrms, 2 baths.

**\$574,900**

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**Network Realty Corp. 403-346-8900**  
**3608-50 Ave www.networkrealtycorp.ca**



**Janice Mercer**  
 403.598.3338

**97 VINTAGE CLOSE, BLACKFALDS | \$399,800!**

**NEW LISTING!**



Executive WALK OUT modified bi-level on a close, backing onto a treed reserve. Steps to Abby Centre, daycare, new bike & skate park and schools. CA0154052

**OPEN HOUSE: SUN, JAN. 20, 2-4 PM**

**215 60 LAWFORD AVE, RED DEER | \$176,500**

**NEW LISTING!**



2 bed, 2 bath freshly painted, some new flooring. Move in ready condo! CA0154532



**Tracy Thody**  
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 403-358-8605



**2146 Danielle Drive | \$174,900**

- 50+ adult living community
- 3 bedroom, 2bath, 1526 sq. ft.
- Double attached garage
- Private back patio



**4610 47A Avenue | \$188,900**

- Adult building, excellent downtown location
- 2 bedroom, 2 bath
- Underground parking




**Acreage (Red Deer County) \$329,900**

- 20 acres with home, 2 barns
- 5 mins east of Delburne
- Adjacent to Crown land




**Doug Wagar**  
 403.304.2747

**OPEN HOUSE SUN, JAN 20, 2-4 PM**  
 4269 WESTBROOK RD, BLACKFALDS

**BLACKFALDS WALKOUT**  
 Backing onto park. 1410 sq. ft., 4 beds, 3 baths. A must see at **\$354,900**

**ROCKY!**  
 Incredible executive 2 storey home! 2015 sq. ft. with double attached garage. **\$390,000**

**FULLY DEVELOPED**  
 Adult bungalow townhome, 3 beds, 2 baths, office, attached garage. **\$212,900**

**VIEW ACREAGE**  
 Minutes from Red Deer! 1655 sq. ft. fully developed walkout bungalow, 4 beds, 3 baths, triple car garage. **\$725,000!**

**ACREAGE!**  
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**NEW LISTING**



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**CONDO ON PARK**  
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 MLS# CA0154027  
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**BUNGALOW**  
 19 VOISIN CLOSE  
 MLS# CA0153944  
**\$674,900!**

**RIVERFRONT**  
 4756 56 STREET  
 MLS# CA0153943  
**\$949,900!**

**HUGE YARD**  
 84 KERSHAW CLOSE  
 MLS# CA0153356  
**\$484,900!**

**CONDO**  
 56 CARROLL CRES #315  
 2 bed, 2 bath condo!  
 MLS# CA0152387  
**\$209,900!**

**GATED COMMUNITY**  
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 MLS# CA0152296  
**\$574,900!**

**NEAR RIVER TRAILS**  
 74 WILTSHIRE BOULEVARD  
 MLS# CA0150861  
**\$474,900!**

**PARK VIEW**  
 295 BARRETT DRIVE  
 MLS# CA0149229  
**\$374,900!**

**REVENUE PROPERTIES**  
 132 & 140 BOWMAN CIRCLE  
 MLS# CA147003  
**\$379,900!**

**BUNGALOW**  
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 MLS# CA0154025  
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- Features the newest in modern amenities
- Gorgeous laminate flooring on main floor
- Master bdrm features 3 piece ensuite
- No Condo Fees



**\$369,900 OR TRADE**

**LIBERTY LANDING,  
GASOLINE ALLEY**

- Stunning open concept 2 storey home
- 1524 sq. ft., 3 bdrms, 3 baths
- Large entry with built-in desk
- Stylish gas fireplace in LR, lots of room to build a garage
- Great location! Brand new build by Falcon Homes



**TEXT CODE TO 555-0000  
FOR PHOTOS & DETAILS**



**Kevin Durling**  
Agent

**\$449,500 OR TRADE**

**SYLVAN LAKE**

- Modern home with cottage décor
- 2 storey, 1678 sq. ft., 3 bdrms, 4 baths
- Main flr features open concept design with rock gas fireplace
- Master feat. 5 pc ensuite, walk-in closet
- Large landscaped & fenced yard with concrete fire pit



**\$289,900 OR TRADE**

**TOWNHOUSE WITH GARAGE!**

- Detached 20x22 garage
- Brand new 2 storey townhouse, 1171 sq. ft., 3 beds, 3 baths
- Modern amenities throughout
- Gorgeous laminate flooring on main floor, kitchen feat. tile backsplash & island
- Fully landscaped, partially fenced & best of all... No condo fees!
- Liberty Landing, Gasoline Alley



**Jamie Berg**  
Agent



**Deanna Zunti**  
Agent

**\$549,900 OR TRADE**

**SPRUCE MEADOWS,  
PONOKA COUNTY**

- Walkout bungalow on mature treed 2.06 acres
- 1879 SqFt, 4 Bedrooms, 4 Baths
- Large livingroom w/vaulted ceilings & wood burning fireplace
- Basement features huge familyroom w/ floor to ceiling windows
- 22x27 garage with loft above



**\$409,900 OR TRADE**

**SYLVAN LAKE**

- Hillside bungalow, half duplex
- Brand new adult oriented semi-detached home in quiet close
- 1206 sq. ft., 2 bdrms, 2 baths
- Spacious LR, contemporary kitchen, quartz counter tops, stainless appliances & full tile backsplash
- Master boasts walk-in closet & 5 piece ensuite w/dual sinks, shower & separate tub
- Fully landscaped & partially fenced yard with irrigation



**Debby Wells**  
Office Administrator

**ROYAL LEPAGE** Network  
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\* Some conditions apply

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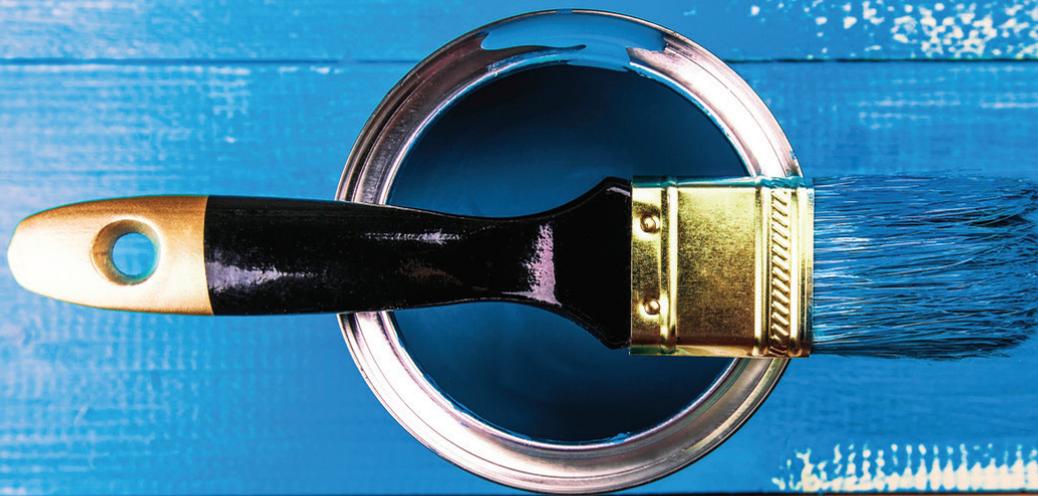
# YOUR HOUSE YOUR HOME



**CALL 403.309.5451 TODAY FOR DETAILS!**

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# Bold colors add warmth and vitality to homes



Whether it's Independence Day, St. Patrick's Day or the holiday season, the bold hues that are synonymous with these events add a splash of color to rooms that can use a little design lift.

While some colors may be synonymous with certain times of year, homeowners can employ bold colors in their homes all year long. By embracing bold painting and decorating styles, homeowners can use fresh color palettes to make rooms more inviting and colorful. These popular color combinations can provide inspiration.

## Green and pink

Colors on opposite ends of the color wheel will always complement each other. Green paired with pink (a lighter shade of green's opposite, red) calls to mind the great outdoors. These hues can

add a touch of floral spring sunshine even when that season has long since passed. Opt for a deep green and a carnation pink for maximum impact. And don't forget a vase full of fresh blooms as the finishing factor.

## Lavender and deep blue

Analogous colors are three colors that sit side-by-side on the color wheel and share a common denominator in terms of shade. Lavender, blue and an orchid pink are examples of such hues. This cool, regal combination can add femininity to a bedroom or even drama to another space in the house. If painting the walls dark blue or lavender seems scary, opt for a neutral shade on walls and then dress up the space with inky and violet accents.

### Turquoise and brick red

Enhance the “wow” factor with these bold colors. Although they are striking, when they work together, they also can impart a soothing feel, particularly since they are often inspired by Asian influences. Feature a light turquoise sofa with red throw pillows. Or dress up meals with a red tablecloth on the dining table and turquoise, white and red, patterned place mats.

### Gray and yellow

Yellow is a pick-me-up color any time of the year, but, when combined with a gray, it’s toned down to be soothing instead of startling. This color combination is popular in kitchens, nurseries and entryways. Have fun in the kitchen with mottled gray stone countertops, pale yellow walls and canary café curtains.

Color can affect mood and transform spaces with just a small investment of time and money. Homeowners can experiment with color palettes so rooms remain vibrant all year long.



Look   
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**Barb McIntrye**  
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**157 Wilson Street | FABULOUS, FULLY DEVELOPED!**  
 Renovated 4 bed bungalow with detached garage & RV parking. A must see in this price range! **OPEN HOUSE: Sunday 1-3 PM!**



*Mitzi Billard*  
 Associate  
**403.396.4005**  
 mitzibillard@remax.net

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**731 700 RAMAGE CLOSE**  
 Hot New Listing!  
  
**OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, JAN 19, 2-4 PM**

**ROSEDALE MEADOWS!**  
 This beautiful 5 bed, 3 bath bungalow with att. o/s garage is fully fenced & landscaped. 3 bdrms on main floor. Open concept with garden door leading to deck. MB comes with 5 pc ensuite (corner jetted tub, double vanity & separate shower). Fully dev. bsmt with theatre & family room, 2 bdrms & 4 pc bath. All incl. garage w/under-floor heat. Also comes with air conditioning! Call Mitzi for more information today! CA0154473. \$439,900

Give *Mitzi Billard* a call to set up a personal viewing of these properties



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**521 Wedgewood Ave, Waskasoo Estates | \$99,500**  
**WALK TO COSTCO** and Gasoline Alley from this adult home situated in a quiet 40+ area. Inexpensive adult living is waiting for you in this home. **Come see Sunday from noon to 3 PM**

**YOUR HOUSE YOUR HOME**

**YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO CENTRAL ALBERTA REAL ESTATE**

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UNIT G, 2085—50<sup>TH</sup> AVE, RED DEER

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**Dale  
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**#36 369 INGLEWOOD DRIVE \$244,900**



A well priced and great starter or empty nester home. This immaculate two storey condo offers 3 bdrms (large master with walk-in closet and vaulted ceiling), 1&1/2 bathrooms, hardwood flooring, an open floor plan, 2 assigned parking stalls.

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# Add a pop of **purple** around the house

Pantone named “Ultra Violet” its color of the year in 2018, helping to create a resurgence in popularity of all things purple. As a result, homeowners who pride themselves on staying on top of the latest trends have increasingly turned to purple when designing their home interiors.

Purple influences can range from the dramatic to the subtle. Here are some ways to embrace purple in your home.

## Transition bedroom color

Purple has long been a favorite shade for adolescents who are growing up and moving away from pinks and peaches into more mature room colors. Purple looks well when accented by white, magenta and yellow.

Even though it is embraced by young girls, purple also can be used by adults who want to create soothing retreats in their bedrooms.

## Create an accent wall

A purple room may intimidate people who prefer mild, more neutral design schemes. But a purple accent wall can add a pop of color, suggest the home experts at Realtor.com. When it comes time to list a home, it’s easier for the next homeowner to embrace a purple accent wall than an entire room decorated in this jeweled tone.



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## Use accent items

It’s easy to add a splash of plum or other variations of purple without making a permanent commitment. Dress up neutral decor with throw pillows, rugs, table linens, or draperies in all shades of purple. As trends change, it’s easy to exchange accent items.

## Modern kitchen

Homeowners can offset efficient, modern design in kitchens characterized by white cabinetry and stainless appliances with some well-placed grape focal points. A purple backsplash, purple-clad island or lavender bar stools can lend vibrancy to a space.

## Purple powder room

A purple guest bathroom is the ideal place to help overnight guests feel regal. Violet and deeper shades of purple can feel warm and luxurious. Beige or cream bathrooms can be enhanced with a deep purple bath mat, shower curtain and hand towels.

Purple is hot right now and turning up in unexpected places in many homes.



## Find and maintain the right carpet for you

Carpets provide both practical and aesthetic appeal inside a home. In winter, carpets help keep homes warm, and the right color carpet can add to design schemes.

While rugs may have originated in the Far East, North America also has some rich carpet history. According to The Carpet and Rug Institute, the United States carpet industry began in 1791 when the first woven carpet mill opened in Philadelphia. Others soon followed suit. Tufted carpets and machine-powered manufacturing helped churn out yards upon yards of carpeting, making it a popular, affordable and common addition to homes, especially after the post-World War II housing boom.

Carpeting remains a go-to flooring material in modern homes. In fact, many homes offer a blend of both carpeting in some rooms and different flooring choices in others.

Upon choosing carpet, it is important that homeowners follow some guidelines to prolong a carpet's longevity and maintain its style. The following are some common carpeting dos and don'ts.

**DO** consider the room's purpose and foot traffic before shopping for carpeting. Make a list of the attributes desired (e.g., soundproofing, easy care, high pile) and present these to the salesperson so he or she can help you make the best choice.

**DON'T** rush into flooring choices. Unlike paint colors, flooring materials are more permanent choices that are only updated every several years or more. Weigh all of your options before diving in.

**DO** consider conservative colors and styles. Neutral hues and patterns will blend better with furniture options. This means you can change furniture out and still keep the existing carpeting, which complements any new pieces. Also, if there's a chance you might sell your home in the near future, buyers tend to look for a neutral color scheme they can make their own.

**DON'T** skimp on padding to save a few dollars on the carpet installation. The carpeting needs a solid foundation to last and look its best. Inadequate padding can lead to extra and noticeable wear and tear. Invest in a good foundation for the carpeting, like firm, dense padding in high-traffic areas.

**DO** become knowledgeable about different carpet styles, such as frieze, Berber, Saxony, textured, and more. This will help ensure you make the most educated decision.

**DON'T** purchase at the first store you visit. Shop around to investigate different pricing and specials. Also, consider the professionalism and expertise of the staff responsible for carpet installation. High-cost carpet may not look very good if it isn't installed correctly.

**DO** stain-protect rugs and carpeting, which can help repel stains that would otherwise become permanent and can prolong the longevity of the flooring.

**DON'T** forget to vacuum carpets frequently to prevent ground-in dirt and debris.

**DO** pick textured carpets to conceal footprints and vacuum track marks.

# OPEN HOUSE

## CENTRAL ALBERTA'S OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

### RED DEER

35 Daniel Crescent ..... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Allan Melbourne..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **304-8993**..... \$399,900..... Devonshire  
 66-2886 Botterill Cres..... **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Ivan Busenius..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **350 8102** ..... \$269,900..... Horizon Village  
 2 Denison Crescent..... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Tim Maley..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **550-3533**..... \$499,500..... Deer Park  
 3 Oberg Court..... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Lori Loney ..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **350-9700**..... \$384,900..... Oriole Park West  
 19 Densmore Crescent .. **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Hilary Rosebrugh ..... CENTURY 21 ADVANTAGE ..... **358-2691** ..... \$324,900..... Deerpark Estates  
 24 Lundberg ..... **1:00 - 5:00 pm** ..... Nadine Marchand ..... ROYAL CARPET REALTY ..... **342-7700**..... \$574,900..... Laredo  
 731 700 Ramage Close .. **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Mitzi Billard..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **396-4005**..... 439,900 ..... Rosedale Meadows.  
 38 Lowden Close ..... **11 am-1 pm** ..... Melesa Starcheski..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **318-0515**..... \$499,900..... Laredo  
 47 Webster Drive ..... **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Dave Haley..... CENTURY 21 ADVANTAGE ..... **304-8939**..... \$454,900..... Westlake  
 38 Lowden Close ..... **11 am-1 pm** ..... Kim Fox ..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **506-7552**..... \$499,900..... Laredo  
 4418 40A AVE..... **1:00 - 2:30 pm** ..... Marina Kooman ..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **341-0004**..... \$240,000..... Grandview  
 109 Kennings Crescent .. **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Gord Ing..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **341-9995**..... \$309,000..... Kentwood East  
 95 Voisin Close..... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Ed Katchur ..... MAXWELL REAL ESTATE..... **506 7171** ..... \$575,000..... Vanier Woods

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

### OUT OF TOWN

39235 C & E Trail #104, ... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Debra Kerr..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **597-9135**..... \$624,900..... Valley Ridge Estates  
 4800 Westbrooke Rd ..... **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... John Cloke ..... ROYAL LEPAGE ..... **741-4222**..... \$274,900..... Blackfalds  
 30 Aurora Heights Blvd.. **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Steve Cormack ..... ROYAL LEPAGE ..... **391-1672**..... \$334,900..... Blackfalds

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

### RED DEER

3318 42 Ave ..... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Elaine Wade..... ROYAL LEPAGE ..... **396-2992**..... \$289,900..... Mountview  
 3421 - 43 Avenue..... **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Lori Loney ..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **350 9700** ..... \$352,900..... Mountview  
 19 Densmore Crescent .. **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Hilary Rosebrugh ..... CENTURY 21 ADVANTAGE ..... **358-2691** ..... \$324,900..... Deerpark Estates  
 187 Loughheed Close..... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Allan Melbourne..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **304-8993** ..... 429,900 ..... Lancaster Green  
 24 Lundberg ..... **1:00 - 5:00 pm** ..... Nadine Marchand ..... ROYAL CARPET REALTY ..... **342-7700**..... \$574,900..... Laredo  
 925 31 Jamieson Ave..... **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Mitzi Billard..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **396-4005**..... \$155,000..... Johnstone Park  
 148 Vincent Close ..... **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Mitzi Billard..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **396 4005** ..... \$659,900..... Vanier Woods  
 128 Weddell Crescent .... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Kim Fox ..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **506-7552**..... \$630,000..... Westlake  
 112 Daniels Crescent..... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Gerald Dore..... ROYAL LEPAGE ..... **872 4505**..... \$419,900..... Devonshire  
 157 Wilson Crescent ..... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Barb McIntyre..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **350 0375** ..... \$339,000..... Westpark

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

### OUT OF TOWN

521 Wedgewood Ave .... **12:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Ivan Busenius..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **350 8102** ..... \$99,500 ..... Waskasoo Estates  
 4103 45 Ave..... **1:00 - 3:00 pm** ..... Tim Maley..... RE/MAX CENTRAL ALBERTA ..... **550-3533**..... \$378,500..... Sylvan Lake  
 97 Vintage Close ..... **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Janice Mercer..... ROYAL LEPAGE ..... **598-3338**..... \$399,800 ..... Blackfalds  
 4269 Westbrooke Road . **2:00 - 4:00 pm** ..... Doug Wagar ..... ROYAL LEPAGE ..... **346-8900**..... \$354,900..... Blackfalds



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# Advantage

21 photos of every property

## Parkland Mall, Red Deer



**Bob Wing**  
403-391-3583



**65 Laurel Close, Blackfalds**

**GREAT VALUE IN BLACKFALDS!**  
Excellent, 1500 sq. ft. bungalow on a large pie lot, in a quiet close! Open design, vaulted ceilings, renovated kitchen with soft close cabs, granite counter tops, multi RV parking, AC, gas FP, 4 bed/3 bath and near QE II.



**NOW \$249,900!**

**6312 - 61 Avenue**

**ATTENTION INVESTORS - PRICE REDUCED!**  
Raised bungalow with a large legal suite, 3 + 1 bdrms, 24x30 garage, fenced yard and close to the Dawe Centre. Upgrades include windows, shingles, both kitchens and bathrooms, furnace, water tank & separate power meters.

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# YOUR HOUSE YOUR HOME



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**Tuesdays at 2:00 pm**

**LONG WEEKEND DEADLINES:**  
Ad copy deadline:  
Fridays at 4 pm,  
Ad proofing deadline:  
Tuesdays at 2 pm

# Bring more natural light into a home

Maximizing natural light in a home is a smart and sometimes low-cost renovation. Homes that are dark and drab can drain energy levels and reduce productivity. In addition, dark rooms may not be inviting places to gather as a family or when entertaining.

Certain factors contribute to a dark home. Houses that face north or east may not get the same level of sunlight as those that primarily face south and west. Geographic location also plays a role in the amount of natural sunlight. Mountains, buildings and even latitude can affect the amount of natural light that enters a home.

The style of a home and its attributes also may create dark conditions. Deep house eaves as well as small windows or too few windows also can contribute to a deficit of light indoors. A major remodel certainly can remedy the situation. However, there also are other less-extensive strategies to improve natural light.

- **Assess the situation before renovating.**

Walk around the house and determine which rooms get the most light and which conditions may be contributing to the problem in other areas. Dark floors and walls may be absorbing natural light and compounding the situation. You may find that only one or two rooms need attention, saving you the cost and effort associated with a major home overhaul.

- **Lighten up window treatments.** Heavy drapes or thick blinds can be replaced with translucent alternatives. Translucent shades will allow light into the room without compromising privacy, say the experts at HGTV.

- **Use mirrors strategically.** A mirror placed opposite a window will reflect light all around the room. This can make a small room seem larger and a dark space instantly brighter.

- **Install new windows and doors.** If the budget allows, installing larger windows in a home will allow more natural light in. French doors or sliding doors also may make a home's interior more bright. Think about adding windows to a side of the house that has none, or increase the size of the windows on the side of the house that gets the most light.

- **Maximize sunlight from above.** Skylights will bring light into a home as the sun passes

overhead. Tubular skylights can bring natural sunlight into spaces where you may not expect skylights to be practical. According to Houzz, a design and architectural resource, tubular daylighting devices, or TDDs, can make a big difference. TDDs are reflective pipes installed between the roof and ceiling, with a clear plastic dome.

- **Use reflective decor.** Reflective surfaces, including glass and metal, can brighten up a room and diffuse light around a room. Glossy backsplashes, pendant lighting and shiny metal that reflect light can increase the natural light, balancing out dark spaces.

- **Prune trees regularly.** Cut back branches and keep trees tidy to maximize sunlight. Avoid planting tall shrubbery in front of windows.

- **Routinely clean windows and glass doors.** Dirt and other grime can prevent light from getting through. Regularly give windows a thorough washing.

Natural light is an important commodity in a home. Sunlight can improve mood and go a long way toward keeping home occupants healthy and happy.



# Let locations inspire design



Homeowners looking to add flair to their homes can find inspiration anywhere. Style can even be tailored to reflect places homeowners have visited.

Whether they call to mind the narrow streets of London, the sand-bleached beaches of a Caribbean island or the urban buzz of New York City, designs can reflect one's travels and evoke some of the same feelings homeowners got when visiting their favorite places. Professional interior designers often pull inspiration from unique places, and so can homeowners who love to travel.

Those who want to illustrate their wanderlust through their home's decor can consider these tips.

## Work with colors

Think about the colors that signify a particular locale and bring those hues into the space. The color palettes of the beach, for example, include grays, beiges, blues, and greens. The popularity of gray-tone neutrals allows homeowners to bring in these colors as a neutral backdrop, and then add a splash of whimsy with a few decorative accents.

## Try natural materials

Vacation hotspots like Hawaii, Southern California and other areas of the Pacific tend to put heavy emphasis on natural materials. Items like bamboo, sea grass, stones, and woven baskets can invite the outdoors into a home.



### Embrace the vibe

Urban centers are awash in energy and color. This spirit can be reflected with modern architecture, bold prints, metallic accents, and innovative lighting.

### Pick an inspiration piece

Homeowners can direct their focus to one particular memento from a vacation or excursion. A vivid piece of artwork, a piece of furniture, a sculpture, or even a wardrobe element can serve as a catalyst for an entire room. Use this piece to match colors and textures.

Remember, to evoke the spirit of an area when decorating, keep it subtle. Too many details or over-the-top replication might seem like one is dressing a stage set rather than his or her home.



# Transform spaces into cozy retreats

Cool weather often drives people to spend more hours indoors than they do during the warmer months. Autumn is a time to winterize gardens, put away lawn furniture and prepare for the holiday season. Autumn also provides the perfect opportunity to begin home interior projects.

Many people decide to redecorate their homes to reflect each season. When temperatures change, it's time to transition from the light colors and breezy fabrics symbolic of summer to thicker, darker materials that evoke coziness.

With some inspiration and a little know-how, any homeowner or apartment dweller can cozy up a space in time for fall and winter.

- **Invest in area rugs.** While wood floors can look beautiful and work well with many different design styles, wood can feel chilly underfoot. Thick area rugs add warmth to a room and can help it look more lived-in. Area rugs also help a room appear more cohesive, coordinating with other colors in a space and providing a visual border.

- **Practice layering in rooms.** An affordable and relatively easy way to make a room seem more cozy is to layer fabrics and other accents. Layers can include throws and blankets. Remove place mats from the dining room table and use them on accent tables or an ottoman in the living room. Table runners also can add a splash of color to the top of bedroom dressers.

- **Play with texture.** Look for fabrics that boast texture and can add a tactile feel to spaces. When used on throw pillows or small accents, faux fur can create that cozy cabin feel. Draperies made from nubby fabrics or those with grooves and ridges can add dimension to a room as well. Even a lampshade made of an unusual fabric, such as a waffle-patterned material, can add a little depth and warmth to a space.

- **Reevaluate your lighting.** Lighting a space is more than just flipping on a switch. Finding the right balance of lighting fixtures can instantly transform the feel of a room. Create more warmth and a cozy feel by switching out bulbs from cooler shades to warmer ones — those that give



off yellow and pink hues rather than cool blues. Accent lighting helps establish a comfortable space for curling up and reading a good book. Spot lighting, such as fixtures that are trained on artwork or inside of a curio or china cabinet, also can set a more welcoming mood.

- **Install a bookshelf and start a book collection.** Piles and stacked books can add warmth to any space. Books evoke the hallowed halls of schools and quiet nooks in the library. Fill shelves with books interspersed with additional design accents, and you will instantly make a room feel more inviting.

- **Choose dark paint.** Do not feel nervous about incorporating deeper shades in rooms. Dark colors give rooms a more enclosed feel than lighter colors, and that can create a warm and cozy feeling. This works particularly well in larger spaces that feel vast and empty. If you're scared to paint all of your walls, try a darker shade below a chair rail or just paint one accent wall.

- **Add architectural elements.** Think about adding rich moldings to crown the ceilings or to frame doorways. If you have the space for a nook, create a window seat beneath a picture window or add a bench and cushions in a corner for a nice escape spot.

Use the colder weather as an opportunity to reinvent some of the rooms in your home. With paint, texture, fabric, lighting, and more, rooms can be quickly transformed into cozy respites from the cold.



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