

The Best (Aesthetically Pleasing) Renovations that Save You Money in the Long Run

July 20, 2018

1. Appliances

The first, and most obvious, tip would be to include new appliances in your renovation. Current trends have just as much of an impact on how our appliances should look as they do on how our homes should look. And unfortunately, if your appliances are out of style, chances are you're not just dating your home, but also wasting money. Newer appliances tend to be more energy efficient and can have a huge impact on your water and energy bill. If you are updating the home, make sure to update the appliances too.

2. Bathroom

If you are doing a renovation on your bathroom, make sure you do your homework. Canadians, in general are some of the biggest water users in the world, and very little of our clean water is used for drinking and cooking. When you are choosing styles to put in your bathroom, opt for an efficient toilet, or a low-flow shower head. Not only will it feel good to be more socially conscious, but your wallet will appreciate the lower water bill, too.



3. LED Bulbs

We've all heard this one before: Switch to LED light bulbs! They have a nicer look, use less energy, and cheers to not having to change light bulbs anymore! If you put LED lights in your kitchen and left the lights on for twelve hours a day, you could still go more than ten years before you needed to buy a new bulb. In our Ultimate Showhome 6, we raised the ceiling to 10 feet, so it was important to include the LED bulbs. Not only do they look better, but who would want to climb a 10-foot ladder to change a bulb? Not us!

4. Natural Light

When you are making the plans for your renovations, make sure you plan your window placement to take advantage of the natural light. South facing windows offer a ton of light to come in, but are also easy to cover for shade on hot summer days. Bedroom windows that face

east let the sun greet you in the morning, but are the first to get dark when you are ready to turn in for the night. An easy way to get the most of your natural light is to paint your walls a light colour. Light colours will bounce light instead of absorb it, and the whole room will seem that much brighter.

Another way to take advantage of natural light is to install solar tubes. Solar tubes bring sunlight from the roof into your home through a reflective tunnel. In the Ultimate Showhome 6, we have eight solar tubes, including one all the way in the basement. They light up like bright LED lights on a clear, sunny day, and work so well, sometimes we don't even have to turn the lights on. Furthermore, they offer a unique light in that it matches the season or weather. Bright white in the winter, soft on rainy days, crisp and clear in the middle of summer. On a full moon night, you can almost read under them without a lamp.



5. Fireplace

This idea might be obvious, but get a working fireplace. Fireplaces are beautiful and add so much character to the room they are in. These days, they aren't just for the living room, either. Fireplaces look great in the basement, master bedroom, and even in your outdoor living space. Come wintertime, don't make your furnace do all the hard work. A fireplace creates a very warm, very inviting home.

6. Security

Lastly, consider home security. This isn't something people always think of as being money saving (or aesthetically pleasing), but a break-in may not only be costly, but incredibly stressful. When you get new windows, make sure they are strong and lockable. Your new front

door should be solid with a good hinge. When you choose patio doors, ask the experts how sturdy they are. If you are updating your garage, get the garage door with a high safety rating. You don't need to have steel bars around your home, but make sure you aren't just thinking about colour when making design choices.



[Visit Our Website and Social Media Pages Below](#)



Ultimaterenovations.com

