



10 Budget-Friendly HOME UPGRADES

*Small changes.
Big transformation.*

By
HOME TRENDS & DIY

WELCOME

Whether you're just settling into a new space or looking to refresh your current home, you've made a brilliant first step by exploring creative, budget-friendly upgrades. At Home Trends & DIY, we believe that beautiful, functional spaces don't need to break the bank.

With a few clever ideas and thoughtful touches, you can transform your home—one simple update at a time.

In this guide, you'll find 10 practical and affordable projects to help you refresh your interiors, boost curb appeal, and add lasting value to your home. Each idea is designed to be achievable with minimal tools and maximum impact, perfect for weekend warriors and DIY beginners alike.

We hope this guide inspires you to take the next step with confidence—and maybe even have a little fun along the way!

Warm regards,

The Home Trends & DIY Team



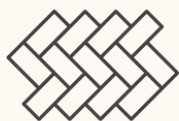
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I. Peel-and-Stick Backsplash

£10-20 | 2-3 Hours

Why it works:

Instantly transforms kitchens or bathrooms with minimal effort.

Huge variety of styles (subway tile, marble, mosaic, and more).

Ideal for renters—removable without damaging walls

Quick facts:

Estimated cost: £20 – £60

Skill level: Beginner-friendly

Top tips:

Measure and mark before applying to avoid crooked lines

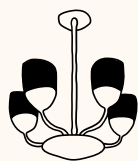
Use a craft knife or scissors for clean edge cuts.

Start from the centre or a corner for best alignment.

Wipe wall surface clean and dry before applying.

Bonus idea:

Use leftover tiles to line the back of a bookshelf or inside drawers for a fun surprise!



2. Update Light Fixtures

£30-100 | 1-2 Hours

Why it works:

Instantly modernises any room with minimal effort
Creates mood, warmth, and personality through lighting
A small change that makes a big visual impact

Quick facts:

Estimated cost: £30 – £100

Time to complete: 1–2 hours

Skill level: Intermediate (or beginner with plug-in options)

Top tips:

Choose fixtures that suit the room's purpose (e.g. warm tones for living areas, bright whites for kitchens).

Try plug-in sconces or swag lamps if you can't hardwire.

Use LED bulbs to save on energy and avoid frequent replacements.

Always switch off power at the fuse box before replacing wired fixtures.

Bonus idea:

Add a dimmer switch to control ambience—ideal for dining rooms or bedrooms!



3. Repaint or Refinish Furniture

£10-40 | 1-2 Days (including drying time)

Why it works:

Breaths new life into tired, outdated pieces.
A sustainable alternative to buying new furniture.
Completely customisable to match your current décor.

Quick facts:

Estimated cost: £10 – £40

Time to complete: 1–2 days (including drying time).

Skill level: Beginner to intermediate.

Top tips:

Lightly sand glossy surfaces before painting to ensure paint adheres properly.

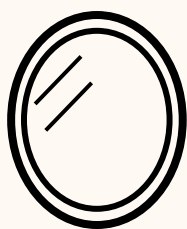
Use chalk paint for a matte, vintage finish—no primer needed.

Apply furniture wax or sealant for durability, especially on tabletops.

For a bold statement, try contrasting drawer fronts or two-tone colour schemes.

Bonus idea:

Replace the knobs or handles while you're at it—brass, matte black or leather pulls instantly modernise any piece.



4. Add a Mirror to Expand Space

£15-60 | 30 minutes

Why it works:

Instantly brightens and visually enlarges small or dark rooms.

Reflects natural light to make spaces feel more open and airy.

Adds a stylish focal point with minimal effort.

Quick facts:

Estimated cost: £15 – £60

Time to complete: 30 minutes.

Skill level: Beginner-friendly.

Top tips:

Place mirrors opposite windows to maximise natural light reflection.

Hang mirrors vertically in narrow hallways to make them feel taller.

Choose round or arched mirrors to soften a space; square or rectangular for a more structured look.

Use adhesive hooks or command strips for renter-friendly mounting.

Bonus idea:

Lean a large floor mirror in a bedroom or living room corner for instant impact—no drilling required!



5. Bring in Greenery

£5-40 (per plant or pot) | 10-30 minutes

Why it works:

Adds life, colour, and calm to any room.

Improves air quality and boosts mood.

Complements every style—from minimalist to boho.

Quick facts:

Estimated cost: £5 – £40 (per plant or pot).

Time to complete: 10–30 minutes.

Skill level: Beginner-friendly.

Top tips:

Start with low-maintenance indoor plants like snake plants, pothos, or peace lilies.

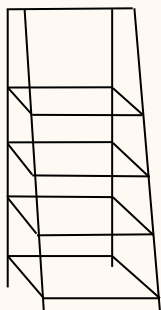
Use plant stands, wall-mounted pots or hanging baskets to vary height and texture.

Mix real and faux plants for easy upkeep and consistent greenery.

Group plants in odd numbers (3 or 5) for a natural, balanced look.

Bonus idea:

Try a mini herb garden in the kitchen for greenery with a purpose—basil, mint, and rosemary all thrive indoors!



6. Re-style Your Shelves

£0-30 | 30-60 minutes

Why it works:

Makes your space feel more curated and intentional.

Easy to change with the seasons or trends.

Great way to display personality without clutter.

Quick facts:

Estimated cost: £0 – £30 (use what you already have!).

Time to complete: 30 minutes – 1 hour.

Skill level: Beginner-friendly.

Top tips:

Use the “rule of thirds”: group items in threes for a balanced look.

Mix textures: combine wood, ceramic, glass, and greenery.

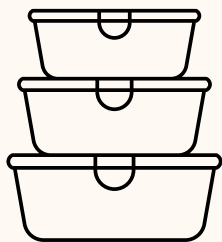
Stack books horizontally and vertically for variety.

Leave some breathing space—don’t overcrowd your shelves.

Add personal touches like framed prints, travel souvenirs or candles.

Bonus idea:

Create a seasonal shelf display—swap in mini pumpkins for autumn or dried flowers in spring!



7. Organise in Style

£10-50 | 1-2 Hours

Why it works:

Declutters your space while adding visual harmony.

Makes everyday items easier to find and use.

Combines function with aesthetics for a polished look.

Quick facts:

Estimated cost: £10 – £50.

Time to complete: 1–2 hours.

Skill level: Beginner-friendly.

Top tips:

Use baskets, crates, or decorative boxes to store loose items.

Label storage containers clearly for a tidy, cohesive feel.

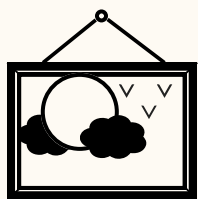
Go vertical: install wall-mounted shelves or hooks to free up floor space.

Choose stylish materials (rattan, metal, linen) that suit your décor.

Clear out items you no longer use—organising starts with editing!.

Bonus idea:

Turn an unused cupboard or corner into a mini utility nook or coffee station with tiered organisers and trays.



8. Add Wall Decals and art Prints

£5-35 | 15-45 minutes

Why it works:

Fills blank walls with personality and style.

Easy to apply and remove—ideal for renters.

Cost-effective way to refresh a room without repainting.

Quick facts:

Estimated cost: £5 – £35.

Time to complete: 15–45 minutes.

Skill level: Beginner-friendly.

Top tips:

Use removable decals for patterns like arches, florals or geometric shapes.

Create a gallery wall using a mix of frames, art prints and personal photos.

Stick to a colour palette for a cohesive, curated look.

Use painter's tape to plan layout before hanging frames or decals.

Bonus idea:

Print your own art at home or use free printables to switch things up seasonally without spending a penny.



9. Accent Wall or Door

£15-60 | 2-6 Hours

Why it works:

Adds depth, character, and visual interest to any room.
A great way to experiment with bold colours or textures.
Transforms a space without the need to redecorate the entire room.

Quick facts:

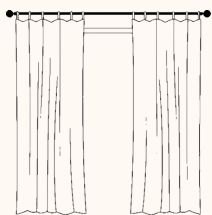
Estimated cost: £15 – £60.
Time to complete: 2–6 hours.
Skill level: Beginner to intermediate.

Top tips:

Use paint, wallpaper, or peel-and-stick panels for a quick transformation.
Choose a wall behind a bed, sofa, or dining table to anchor the room.
Try painting internal doors in contrasting or deep tones for unexpected impact.
Use painter's tape to create geometric or arch-shaped designs for a modern look.

Bonus idea:

Add texture with wood slats, panelling, or moulding—a great weekend DIY with timeless appeal.



10. Refresh Window Treatments

£20-70 | 30-120 minutes

Why it works:

Instantly updates the look and feel of a room.
Controls light, privacy, and even room temperature.
Affordable way to elevate your interior style.

Quick facts:

Estimated cost: £20 – £70.
Time to complete: 30 mins – 2 hours.
Skill level: Beginner-friendly.

Top tips:

Replace old blinds with linen curtains, bamboo shades, or sheer drapes.
Hang curtains closer to the ceiling and wider than the window to make windows look larger.
Use no-drill curtain rods or tension rods for rental-friendly solutions.
Layer curtains (e.g. sheer + blackout) for style and function.

Bonus idea:

Swap out curtain tiebacks with leather straps, macramé holders, or vintage knobs for a custom touch.

Thank You For Reading!

We hope this guide has inspired you to refresh your home with creativity and confidence—one simple upgrade at a time.

Remember, beautiful spaces don't require big budgets—just thoughtful touches and a little imagination.

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Happy decorating!

— The Home Trends & DIY Team