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Tips and trends for homeowners, buyers and sellers

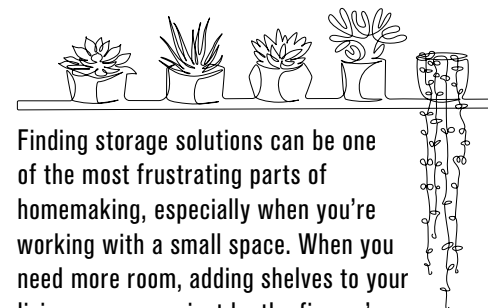


Adding a Sunroom to Your Home

Have you been looking for ways to brighten up and refresh your home this spring? Consider the addition of a sunroom, a space in your home dedicated to bridging the gap between your life indoors with the beauty of outdoors. As sunrooms are primarily made of glass windows or mesh screens, you'll be able to enjoy some fresh air and sunshine without being completely exposed to the outside weather conditions. Here are a few options you can look at building:

Four-season sunroom	Three-season sunroom	Screen room/porch enclosure	Conservatory
This type of sunroom has heating and cooling systems installed, so you can utilize the space year-round.	Unlike the four-season sunroom, a three-season option will not include heating and cooling systems. Depending on where you live, this can hinder the space's ability to be utilized during colder months.	For a screen room, you'll have walls and windows made up of a mesh screen, as opposed to glass. You'll only be able to use this space if the weather permits.	A conservatory, or green room, is a sunroom that has temperature, light and humidity regulation fit for growing plants.

Where You Can Add Shelves in Your Home



Finding storage solutions can be one of the most frustrating parts of homemaking, especially when you're working with a small space. When you need more room, adding shelves to your living space may just be the fix you've been searching for—and in most cases, these installations should also be pretty simple to do yourself. Here are a few places to consider adding shelving.

Above or below the TV

Adding a shelf around your television can help you create an entertainment center without having to purchase one.

Laundry room

If the configuration of your washer/dryer allows for it, shelves above your appliances can create space to store laundry items and household products.

Above doors

If there's a bit of space left above any door frame, that's a prime spot to install a shelf.

Above your bed

Shelves above your bed can be an easy way to add a fun design element to the room. However, this is only recommended for areas of the country that are not prone to earthquakes.

Above kitchen cabinets

It often feels like there's never enough storage space in the kitchen. If your cabinets don't go all the way to the ceiling, try breaking that space up with shelving.



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Removing Mold from Your Shower



Did you know your bathroom is the perfect place for mold to grow? Thanks to the moist and humid environment around the drains, tiles, grout and other hidden corners in your bathroom, there could very well be mold growing without you even realizing it. When inhaled, the spores produced by mold can cause respiratory issues, skin ailments and headaches. If you notice mold growing on your subflooring or dry wall, you'll need to hire a professional. However, if you can see the mold, you may be able to remove it yourself. Here's how you can get it done.

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Using bleach	Using borax	Using white vinegar
<p>Create a mixture that is two parts water and one part bleach, and spray the affected area. The mold should begin to fade after the solution sits for 10 minutes. Use a coarse sponge, brush or toothbrush to scrub the remaining mold away. Remember to allow for proper ventilation when working with bleach.</p>  <p>2 parts water + 1 part bleach</p>	<p>Mix one cup of borax with one gallon of warm water. Spray some of the solution on the affected area, and use a brush or sponge to get rid of the mold stains.</p>  <p>1 cup of borax + 1 gallon of warm water</p>	<p>Spray white vinegar directly on the affected area, and let it sit for 10 minutes. Wipe the solution away with a sponge or rag.</p>  <p>Spray undiluted white vinegar</p>

To prevent mold from growing in the future, make sure that your bathroom is properly ventilated. You may want to invest in a squeegee, which will help you to remove excess water from the shower and bathtub after every use. You should also make sure that your bathmats, towels and other soft materials are fully drying after each use. If you plan on painting your bathroom, choose a semi-gloss option that will create a water-resistant surface. There are also home paints that have been specifically formulated to be mold resistant.

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