

4 unexpected upgrades to increase your home's value

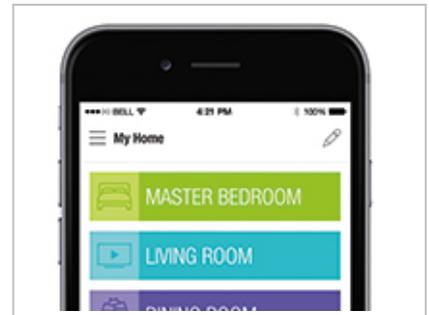
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(NC) With home prices increasingly steadily, now is the time to invest in your home. Whether you're ready to sell now, or want to boost your home's value for the future, there are a few upgrades that can make a big impact.

When it comes to renovations, we typically head straight to the bathroom and kitchen. While new shiny faucets and stainless steel appliances give off a striking first impression, there are other unexpected areas that can affect the overall look and feel of your home.

1. Window coverings

Lighting can accentuate the positive elements in your home, or highlight the negative ones. Sunlight is warm and welcoming, but without ultraviolet protection, over time it can fade and damage a room's furnishings and décor. Hunter Douglas's line of products offers ultraviolet protection to help counter the sun's harmful effects. Their Pirouette window shadings are designed with soft, horizontal fabric vanes attached to a single sheer backing. This innovation allows natural light into your room and it also lets you control the light in an entirely new way.



2. The front door

This is the very first impression that a potential buyer will have of your home. Even if the inside of your home is stunning, a tired front door can set the wrong tone for anyone who walks in. Replacing the front door can provide a fresh new look. Consider whether you need to replace locks, knobs, and other door hardware and ensure that it coordinates with the rest of your home.

3. Outdoor landscaping

Even if you aren't planning to sell your home, think for the future with landscaping improvements that will add valuable curb appeal. Planting a tree will not only make your home more visually desirable but it can also help to save energy. Choose a leaf shedding tree that will provide shade from the summer sun, but will let light in during the winter months to maximize solar warmth and light.

4. Home tech

Technology is not just for smartphones anymore. Homebuyers are increasingly interested in smart homes with elements that will make their lives easier. The new Hunter Douglas PowerView motorized operating system lets you customize the perfect combination of light, privacy and warming, keeping your home perfectly in sync with the time of day and your mood. The PowerView Pebble Remote allows you to control exactly how light will play throughout your home from the palm of your hand.

More information is available at www.hunterdouglas.ca.

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