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home

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do-it-yourself ideas • decorating strategies • favorite finds



autumn accents

Mums and jack-o'-lanterns don't have to be the whole story for fall. Check out heirloom pumpkins in bold shades like blood orange and deep green as well as sophisticated pale hues. One perfect orb displayed with leaves creates a stylish arrangement, says Justin Brandreth Potter, owner of nettletonhollow.com, an online resource for decorative branches and botanical materials.

Photo: Helen Norman.



floor plan

The right stuff underfoot can make a huge difference in a house. But with so many options, making a choice can be daunting. The key to finding your perfect floor? Chris Davis, CEO of the World Floor Covering Association (wfca.org) says to ask yourself how each room is used. Is there high traffic? Kids playing? Pets? Then pick the material that fits your needs. And if DIY is not in your DNA, hire a pro to help.

Update your stomping ground with something green and gorgeous like Eco Timber's woven bamboo flooring in honey.

GROUND control

➤ Carpet, laminate, cork, bamboo—new trends in every type of flooring make updating any room easy. Walk this way! by Laura Serino

the naturals

→ Go wild with lots of gorgeous and eco-friendly options.

CERAMIC TILE

Highlights Durable and handsome so gives a big bang for the buck.

Best for Baths, kitchens or anywhere you want luxury flooring that resists stains and water.

Cost From \$3 per square foot.

\$ Saver Add value and pizzazz without splurging by tiling a small area like a powder room or kitchen backsplash.

Trend Spotting Deep firing means Crossville's tiles never flake or fade.



Crossville Building Blox, Terra Cotta, from \$8.50 per sf, crossvilleinc.com.

Shaw Ceramic Lunar, from \$4.90 per piece, shawfloors.com.

tread lightly

Shaw's porcelain tiles, made from 40% recycled content, are eco-friendly but also beautiful—they're inspired by the surface of the moon.

CORK

Highlights Made in pressed sheets that come from by-products of the wine bottle stopper industry. Resilient, durable and naturally hypoallergenic.

Best for Kitchen, kids' rooms or any living area where you want a cushy feel.

Look for Panels that snap together without glue or nails for easy installation.

Cost From \$4 per square foot.

Trend Spotting Rich new shades from US Floors and Globus range from pale champagne to rich dark chocolate and smoky cognac.



Globus Cork, Green, from \$5 per sf, corkfloor.com.



US Floors Cork Earth & Classic, Santos, from \$7 per sf, usfloorsllc.com.

BAMBOO

Highlights Made from a fast-growing, regenerating grass that's harvested over and over. It's pressed into planks that are harder than oak, water-resistant and truly sustainable.

Best for Anywhere you want an exotic, elegant look, including the bathroom.

Look for Many new shades, from straw to coffee.

Cost From \$6 per square foot.

Trend Spotting Teragren's new wide plank strand bamboo self-locks without any glue. US Floor's bamboo planks have a 6-coat prefinish for durability.

LINOLEUM

Highlights Over 100 fashion-forward colors and a green reputation (natural ingredients and solvent-free) have made it the darling of trendy homeowners.

Best for Kitchens, bathrooms and mudrooms where the smooth, soft surface wears well and holds up to water.

Cost From \$3 per square foot.

Trend Spotting Even the backing of Marmoleum's sheet linoleum is woven with natural jute fibers.



Marmoleum Click, Pineapple, from \$5 per sf, themarmoleumstore.com.



Marmoleum Click, Bleecker Street, from \$5 per sf, themarmoleumstore.com.



US Floors Bamboo Traditions, Irish Moss, from \$4 per sf, usfloorsllc.com.



Teragren Synergy, Brindle, from \$7 per sf, teragren.com.