



Happily Better After Room Redesign & Home Staging

Anyone can have the home of their dreams - sometimes it just takes a little magic!



Kitchen Updates for \$250 or Less

Is your kitchen looking less than appetizing, but you don't have the funds for a complete re-do? Well, there are several budget-friendly, DIY cosmetic updates you can make in a weekend that will give your kitchen a fresh new look for a fraction of the cost. Here are some great changes you can make for \$250 or less:

Paint

Changing the wall color is the best way to make the most dramatic change for the least amount of money. Popular hues range from the subtle to bold, but the big trend is color itself, so pick a shade that's appetizing to you!



Cabinet Knobs and Drawer Pulls

Not sure what overall changes you want to make, but you know you want to do something? Start small by replacing the hardware on your cabinets and drawers. There are plenty of attractive styles from \$5 - \$10 each, so you can easily swap out all of your pulls and knobs for less than \$200.

Window Treatments

Fussy two-piece curtain sets for the window over the sink are passé—simple shades or valances (or

no window treatment at all) are popular in updated kitchens. The same goes for windows in eat-in kitchens; ditch the mini-blinds for Roman or roll-up shades.



Accent Lighting

If your kitchen tends to be on the dark side, lighten up with a couple of pendant lights, or under-cabinet strip lights to illuminate and warm the space.

Linens

A colorful runner, fresh placemats, and new kitchen towels provide an instant, inexpensive pick-me up in any kitchen.

Countertop Accents

Stash some of the small appliances to make room for a set of filled canisters, a decorative plate on a stand, a collection of gourmet oils, a tiered basket for fruit, or a set of cookbooks.

Wall Art

Kitchens typically don't need much on the walls, but a couple of strong pieces can really make a statement. An interesting clock, a reclaimed sign,

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wall sculpture, or framed art can add style and pizzazz to an otherwise bland kitchen.

Faucet

There are many newer models that feature one-piece pull-out sprayers and updated finishes, so replacing the faucet not only boosts your kitchen's style, but also its convenience.

Backsplash

From ceramic to glass to stainless steel, the possibilities are almost endless. Installing a new backsplash adds a dramatic element that will make your kitchen mouth-watering!



Light Fixtures

Gorgeous, affordable choices abound, whether you're replacing a hanging fixture in the eating area, or a flush-mount overhead light. Brushed stainless, oiled brass, and antique bronze are popular finishes for single- or multi-light fixtures. If your existing fixture is a timeless style, but the finish is dated, spray painting is a quick, easy way to get a fresh look.

Cabinet Refinishing

If your cabinets are in good condition, but the color could use an update, consider refinishing them. Whether you paint, stain, or re-color them with one of the new transformation kits available, refinishing the cabinets definitely gives your kitchen a facelift.

Countertop Refinishing

If your laminate countertops are in good condition, but you want the look of stone, Rust-Oleum has a countertop refinishing kit that mimics the look of granite, and can be completed in a weekend.

Vinyl Floor Tile

Vinyl tile has come a long way from traditional linoleum or super-shiny no-wax. Now there are options that look like stone tile, but are easy to install, and cost a lot less. Some even have borders that look like grout lines when installed.

To make your budget stretch even further, check the clearance sections of your favorite home improvement stores first—you may be able to find the perfect item at a much lower cost, and use your savings to update another element of your kitchen!

If the thought of doing it all yourself seems a bit overwhelming, we provide expert advice. Whether you need assistance choosing a paint color or the right accessories, we'll help you create a kitchen that delights all of your senses. Call **609.880.9682** to get started today!

Happily Better After works with people who want their homes to be attractive, comfortable, and organized, but need a little help to make it happen. Our advice and expertise helps you achieve the results you desire, whether you plan to stay or sell.

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