

Homeowners about to embark on home improvement projects should prioritize dust removal to avoid the potentially negative side effects of exposure to lead dust. When

undergoing a renovation, homes built before 1978, the year the use of lead paint was banned, are likely to produce lead dust, which occurs when lead paint is sanded or chipped. That dust can be especially harmful to children, pregnant women and pets. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, lead dust that is as small as a grain of sand is enough to poison children, who may suffer brain damage, hearing loss, nervous system and kidney damage, and decreased muscle and bone growth after exposure to lead dust. When pregnant women are exposed to lead dust, that exposure may affect the baby's cognitive development while increasing the mother's blood pressure. Household pets exposed to lead dust may suffer from a series of side effects, including vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain and possibly death. When making renovations to their homes, homeowners can open windows and wear protective gear such as masks and safety goggles to avoid direct exposure to lead dust.

**YOUR LOCAL APPLIANCE STORE**  
 FREE Local Delivery, Set up, Removal & Recycling  
 SALES PARTS SERVICE FINANCING

**WHIRLPOOL  
 AMANA  
 MAYTAG**  
 - over 60 units in stock -

Staples  
*True Value*

205 Warner Road - 1 mile N of HWY 10  
 Staples MN (218) 894-3263  
 www.staplestruevalue.com



## Secrets to making your home look like you hired a design pro



in vases, throw pillows and other accessories.

Also, many designers work in shades of three for room colors. There may be one main color for walls, another color for larger accents, such as couches and chairs, and then a third color that pops in accessories such as flowers, pillows and collectibles. These can be any colors, but the most muted tends to be the more abundant shade.

### Add a bit of bling

Glittery items and metallics can add a touch of luxury feel to any space. A shiny table lamp, mirrors, a sparkling chandelier, and the like are easy ways to produce a high-end feel. Reflective surfaces also will cast light around the room, giving the illusion of a larger space.

### Choose a big statement piece

Many homeowners make the mistake of filling a room with several small pieces of furniture that only contribute to clutter. Instead, look for a statement piece, which can be a cabinet, armoire or chaise. Mix and match large and small elements for a sense of balance.

### Accessorize

Finish the room with accessories and flowers. When placing and hanging knickknacks and wall art, odd-numbered groupings often look the most cohesive and interesting. Experiment with different scales and heights for even more dimension.

When inspiration hits, take some cues from interior design pros to make spaces look like they belong on the pages of your favorite magazines. FH198113



## IMPROVE YOUR ONLINE EXPERIENCE AT HOME WITH MANAGE MYWI-FI

You love having a Wi-Fi network, but not the hassles of equipment upgrades and troubleshooting. That's why we offer Managed Wi-Fi. Our team handles it all for you, so you can simply enjoy strong signals and fast Internet throughout your home.

**MANAGE MYWI-FI FOR JUST \$6.95/MO.\***  
 CALL 218-837-5151 TO SIGN UP NOW.



308 Frontage Road, Sebeka, MN 56477  
 218-837-5151 • www.wcta.net



\*Manage MyWi-Fi works in conjunction with your West Central Internet service. Contact us for more details.

Domestiana Group © 2018

Photo spreads in home design magazines can be awe-inspiring. Quite often homeowners wish they could lift the looks right off the pages of magazines and transform their own homes into picture-perfect retreats.

It takes an eye for design to pull a room together – even with inspiration – and make it both functional and attractive. While hiring an interior designer is one way to go, homeowners can use some of the tricks and techniques the designers employ to do a remarkably good job of improving the interiors of their homes without such help.

### Embrace texture

The colors used in a home can add impact, but designers often utilize various textures to create aesthetic appeal. A single color scheme can be enhanced by various fabrics. Consider a leather sofa made more cozy with chenille pillows next to a rustic side table. Figure out ways to incorporate a few different textures to add depth to the room.

### Be careful with color

Many high-end homes showcase neutral shades that are enhanced by pops of color. If you like a rich, royal purple, leave room for other colors as well. Add touches of purple

## Five household cleaning hacks using essential oils



(StatePoint) From cleaners and sprays to air fresheners and more, essential oils are making their way into the mainstream as commonplace, common sense household solutions.

It's no surprise then that the market for essential oils is anticipated to grow significantly (more than 9 percent) over the next several years, according to Grand View Research. More households are catching onto the fact that these beneficial plant-based ingredients have a range of cleaning and home care uses.

To get in on the trend, consider these cool home care uses for essential oils:

- **Wipe Surfaces:** Creating your own cleaning supplies can make chores a little easier

on the eyes, nose and throat. The good news is that certain essential oils, like tea tree and lemon oil can help fight dirt and grime, as well as kill bacteria and viruses, making them an excellent addition to homemade cleaning solutions and wipes.

- **Banish Bugs:** Most traditional home insecticide products use the same active ingredients initially developed almost 50 years ago. Interestingly, the right mix of essential oils can also be highly lethal to bugs. Familiar ingredients such as lemongrass oil and geraniol in Zevo Instant Action Sprays target nerve receptors active only in insects, not people or pets.

“Zevo bug sprays are effective because they target insects’ unique biology with a blend of effective essential oils, setting them apart from traditional insecticide sprays,” says John Scarchilli of Procter & Gamble Ventures, which sell Zevo online and at select Target and The Home Depot stores.

- **Bust Fridge Odors:** Even if you regularly rid your fridge of old items and wipe down

its surfaces, combatting fridge odor can be a losing battle, as the plastic components tend to absorb odors over time. Make that box of baking soda that you have in your refrigerator work a bit harder. To go beyond simply neutralizing odors, add a few drops of essential lemon oil to it for a crisp, fresh scent.

- **Revive Fabrics:** Take a natural approach to fresh-smelling fabrics. Create your own spray by combining baking soda, distilled water and a touch of your favorite essential oils. Use the formula on linens, upholsteries, window treatments or any other fabrics around your home in need of a scent boost.

- **Create Calm:** You don't have to do a full hygge-inspired renovation project to promote a peaceful atmosphere in your home's spaces. With just a diffuser and such essential oils as lavender and bergamot, you can fill a room with a calming scent.

For clean, healthy, bug-free spaces, consider introducing essential oils into your home's supply kit. A small but mighty dose can go a long way.

## Park Rapids Building Supply

Your full service lumber yard and hardware store.



**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
 Monday - Friday: 7:30 am - 6 pm  
 Saturday: 8 am - 4 pm  
 Sunday: 11 am - 3 pm  
**(218) 732-7633**

PR Building Supply  
  
**\$5 OFF**  
**PROPANE FILL**  
 Expires October 31, 2019  
**ANY SIZE 20 LB OR LARGER**  
**COUPON**

**MARCHELL ELECTRIC**  
 Residential Commercial Farm

OFF PEAK WIRING TRENCHING  
 NEW CONSTRUCTION REMODELING

Hwy 71 N., Park Rapids, MN 56470  
**732-8862**