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### **ROC HOME** & Remodeling Guide



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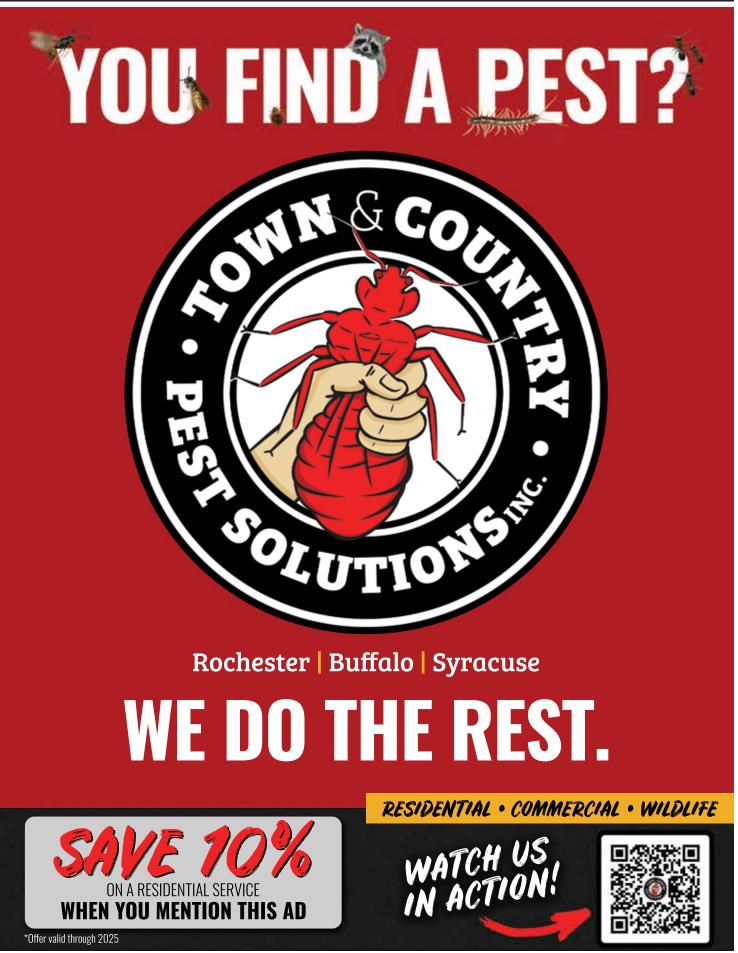
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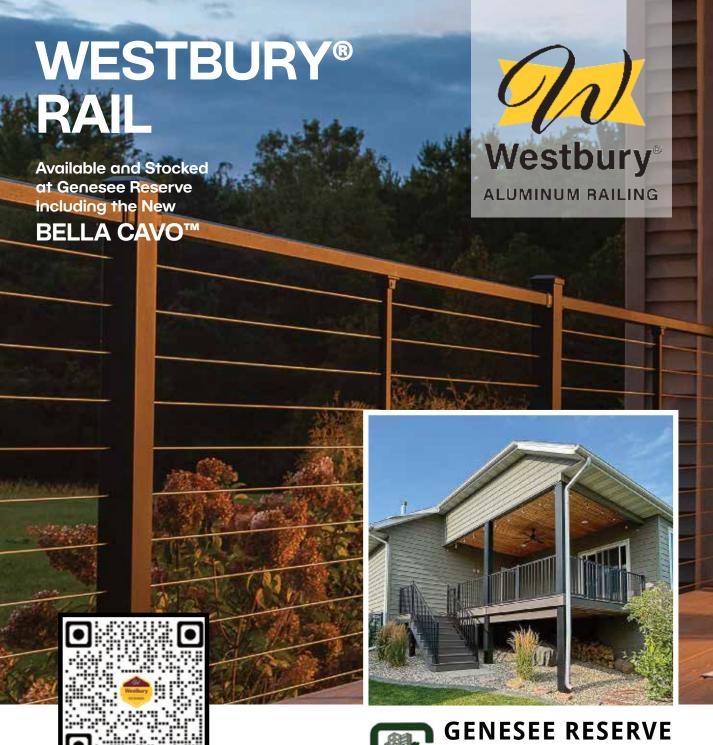
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### **Top 3 Color Trends for 2025**

Are the white walls of your new home begging for some personality? Or is your room in need of an update? No matter the circumstance, choosing a wall color is not an easy feat. Sifting through hundreds of swatches can be overwhelming. Thankfully, the top paint manufacturers have released their top color picks for the year to help you narrow your selection.

So what's in store for 2025? It's looking like purples, browns and beach house colors are going to make their marks.

#### **Purples**

Purple is often considered an accent color, but some are daring enough to use it for an entire wall or room.

- Purple Basil, from Glidden, is a blend of warmth and energy, inviting you to embrace the transformative power of color.
- Cinnamon Slate, by Benjamin Moore, is a delicate mix of heathered plum and velvety brown.

- Violet, by Minwax, creates eclectic interiors and unique pieces.
- Rumors, from Behr, is a luxurious ruby red so deep it borders on purple, adding warmth and rich allure.

#### Browns

Some play it safe with earth tones by opting for beige, but even neutrals can be bold.

- Mocha Mousse, by Pantone, is a warming brown hue imbued with richness.
- Raku, by C2, is an earthy, burnt brownish red with oxidized undertones that infuses spaces with drama and intimacy.
- Caramelized, by Dunn Edwards, is a warm terracotta brown with soft, earthy tones reminiscent of sunbaked clay.

#### **Beachy Hues**

There's a reason people love beach houses; the blues and greens offer freshness and tranquility.

- Quietude, by HGTV Home by Sherwin-Williams, is a soft sage with a whisper of blue influence, and an emerging color for enduring design.
- Encore, by Valspar, is an anchoring shade that embodies constancy and confidence to let you create a joyful respite.
- Mapped Blue, by Dutch Boy, is a versatile medium tone blue with subtle yellow undertones that provides a dependable foundation.

Lastly, Sherwin-Williams opted for a curated collection of colors for its "2025 Color Capsule of the Year" that fits nicely with trends above, featuring both shades of brown — such as Grounded and Clove — and a light, muted shade of purple called Mauve Finery.

Need help deciding what works best for your space? Start with a local professional you'll find at **FindTheHomePros.com**.





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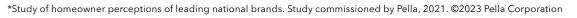
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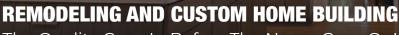
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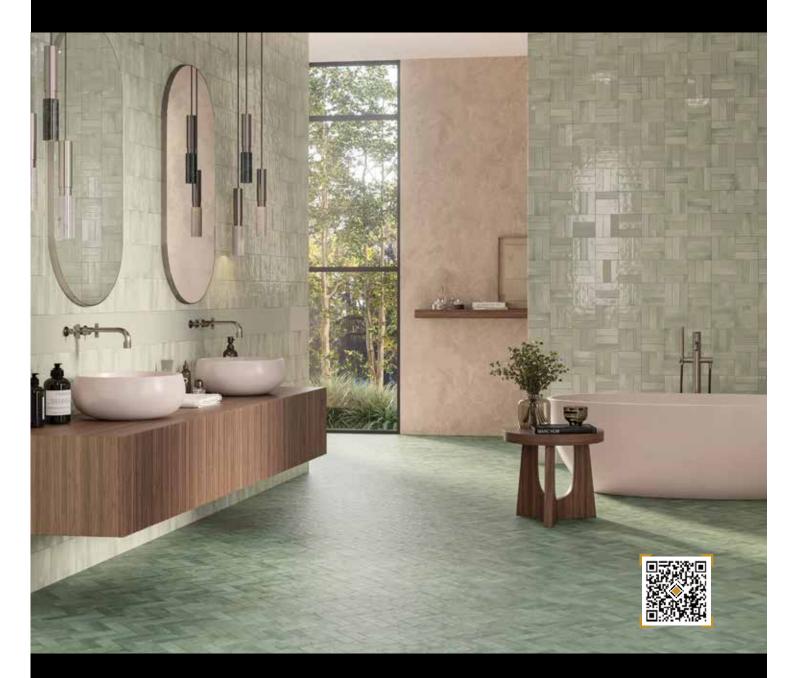
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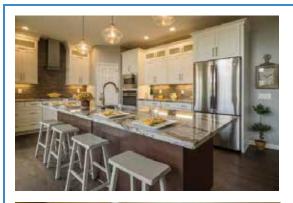
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### **Enhance Your Living Spaces: Improve or Move?**

Your home should be a sanctuary – a place filled with love, joy, peace, and hope. Whether you rent or own, there are many ways to enhance the health, safety, and comfort of your living spaces.

### Facing a Life Change?

- Selling Your Home: Need help preparing for resale as you reach a new milestone?
- **Buying a Home:** Considering your first home or a "forever home?"

HGTV and real estate apps offer inspiration, but navigating the process can be complex.

#### Safe, Accessible, and Community-Oriented Housing

- A Human Right: Safe, stable, and accessible housing is a fundamental human right.
- **Community Focus:** The design and construction industry excels at creating thriving communities.

#### UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES:

- **Visitability:** Features like singlestory living, zero-clearance entry doors, accessible landscaping, and 36-inch doorways are increasingly in demand.
- Accessibility: Main-floor bedrooms with nearby bathrooms (including walk-in showers), lowered windows, and multiple exits enhance safety and convenience for everyone.
- Universal Design: Accessible kitchens and bathrooms are essential in multi-generational homes and for people with diverse abilities.

#### Safety and Independence

• Home Automation: Smart home features like optimally placed switches and outlets enhance safety and security for all ages, promoting independent living.

#### FALL PREVENTION:

✓Eliminate tripping hazards.

- ✓Install slip-resistant flooring.
- ✓Ensure ample, controllable lighting.
- ✓Utilize high-contrast colors.
- ✓Reduce glare.
- ✓ Maintain an organized and clutter-free environment.

#### **Building Your Team**

- **Professional Expertise:** Collaborate with reliable contractors and vendors, such as members of the Rochester Home Builders Association, the American Society of Interior Designers, the National Kitchen and Bath Association, the National Association of Realtors, and other local organizations.
- Essential Support: Engage attorneys, financial planners, home care agencies, and other service providers to achieve your short-term and long-term goals.
- Mortgage Guidance: A reliable mortgage broker can guide you through the process of purchasing a home, refinancing, or making necessary improvements.

#### Improve or Move?

If you're unsure whether to improve your current home or move, I can help. With over three decades of experience in environmental design, I offer tailored solutions to meet your unique lifestyle needs.

- **Coordination and Guidance:** I can assist you in coordinating your transition team.
- **Inclusive Design:** I specialize in creating universally designed spaces that are accessible and enjoyable for people of all ages and abilities, including those with autism and special needs.
- Building Generational Wealth: I can help you create a home that supports your long-term goals and builds generational wealth through homeownership.

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Dani is a gifted interior consultant and problem solver who helps her clients save time, money and stress, and provides them with resources they can't get elsewhere. As one of the area's top selling realtors, she's an expert on the local market.

Known as a "natural collaborator," Dani is the founder of EveryBody.Homes - A Universal Living Company and is active in local community groups and proud to be a Charter Partner at Empire Realty Group with her List It, Love It Team.

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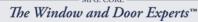
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### **Spruce Up Your Home for Spring**

If the winter blues have you longing for spring, there are several home maintenance activities you can tackle to prep for the season. Inspecting and cleaning your home during the transitional months makes any household's future repair easier to manage. And by dedicating just a few days to completing these simple tasks, you will keep your home running smoothly and protect your investment at the same time. To get started, here are five ideas to help you spruce up your home for spring.

**Refresh Your Windows.** As the weather gets warmer, it's vital to ensure your windows are in good working condition. First, inspect all windows for proper operation and a tight fit. To start, clean the window tracks. If you have window screens, gently wash them with soapy water. Next, check that the weatherstripping hasn't cracked or torn. You can help reduce your energy

bills by preventing unwanted outside air from leaking into your home.

Schedule an Air Conditioning Tune-up. Have your air conditioning system inspected and cleaned. If your system has a filter, replace it. A good rule of thumb is to have your air filter replaced every three months to keep your unit working efficiently. If your air conditioner is in good shape, consider other ways to keep your home cool as the weather turns warmer, like adding curtains, shades or blinds to windows.

**Prepare for Unwanted Pests.** Warmer weather also means that pests – including ants, roaches, rats, and termites – will be looking to join your household. Keep them out by sealing cracks and openings along baseboards, behind sinks, and around pipes and windows. And repair holes in door and window screens to prevent outside pests from entering your home.

**Inspect Your Roof.** Severe weather can take a toll on your roof. Experts recommend checking your roof for any signs of winter damage from heavy snowfall or debris. Remember to take special care when using a ladder to inspect your roof. Read and follow directions carefully.

**Clean Your Gutters.** Long winters bring a mix of storms and heavy winds that can carry a lot of debris to your gutters. Debris, leaves and other twigs clog up your gutters and downpours. Your home is susceptible to interior or exterior water damage without a regular clean-up.

Need help from a home professional? You'll find the local pros at **FindTheHomePros.com.** 

#### 2025 ROC Home & Remodeling Guide





### Beautiful & Bountiful - Raised Beds Enhance Today's Home Garden

A charming landscaping feature that delivers home-grown vegetables, herbs and fresh flowers without a trip to the farmer's market – it's no wonder raisedbed gardens are popping up in neighborhoods around the country. A raised garden bed sits above its surroundings in a lush display of color and edible bounty whose care and maintenance is easy on the back and knees.

Occupying whatever sunny space is available, framed in wood, stone, corrugated metal, a single bed or several in a pleasing configuration, raised beds may be anywhere from 6 inches to 3 or more feet high. Ideally, the beds will be no more than 4 feet across, allowing the gardener to reach into all parts of the bed from the edge.

Surround multiple raised beds with mulch or crushed stone pathways in a regularly spaced formal configuration or create meandering or zig-zag designs. Tier progressively smaller beds atop one another to create a layered, cascading effect.

Naturally rot-resistant wood such as cedar or redwood creates a longer lasting frame, but thick planks of pine, recycled plastic deck lumber, stone, brick, cinder block and corrugated metal sheeting all create their own looks and will endure. Or start with a raised-bed kit -- home and gardening supply stores offer them in many varieties and sizes.

Spreading weed-suppressing fabric or using thick layers of newspaper, wetted with a hose, where the bed will be placed is all the ground preparation necessary, as long as the raised bed is deep enough to accommodate the roots of your plants.

#### Create Optimal Growing Conditions

A raised bed enhances your garden's yield. Soil that is fertile and stays loose supports denser plantings than a traditional plot. Plants are arranged close enough to touch when full grown to create a lush display of foliage and color.

Fill your raised bed with a soil made up of plenty of organic material such as compost, peat moss and decomposed manure mixed with top soil and sand or perlite to promote good drainage. Because no one is stepping on the garden to tend to it or pick vegetables, the soil stays loose, allowing roots to expand freely and promoting quick and healthy plant growth.

Plant vegetables for sequential harvest: Replace early-producing plants with those that grow later in the season, all interspersed with long-growing herbs. Planting flowers among the vegetables and herbs add color and attracts bees and butterflies to pollinate your crops. Edible flowers such as nasturtiums, lavender and pansies enliven the garden's color and may be used as a garnish or salad ingredient.

Proper composition and the elevation of the soil provide optimal drainage, which helps your plants thrive. In dry times, the excellent drainage means the garden requires regular watering. Create a simple and efficient watering system by laying soaker hoses along the surface of the soil between plants. Organic mulches such as straw or wood chips can help retain moisture and moderate soil temperature in hot, dry weather.

#### Enjoy Comfort and Ease of Maintenance

Take a seat on the edge of the frame or pull up a gardening stool to tend or harvest your raised bed in comfort. Wooden frames may be built with a sill wide enough to double as a seat, making them comfortably accessible without stooping or kneeling.

By controlling the soil that goes in, you can minimize the weed seeds present in the soil. And because plants in a raised bed grow closely spaced, they crowd out many weeds. You can spend more of your gardening time planting and harvesting, and when a few weeds do show up, they are all within reach and easily pulled out of the loose soil.

All ages can enjoy gardening a raised bed. They're great for gardening with children, who can help plant and weed without stepping on and compacting the garden soil. Beds can be built tall and narrow enough to be accessible from a wheelchair or be placed on a table-like frame for that purpose.

Numerous how-to's are available online to guide you through building your own raised garden from scratch. Check out Pinterest for designs in various materials and creative looks. If you need help and more ideas, reach out to a pro at **FindTheHomePros.com** to find a professional to help you plan your dream garden and landscape.

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### Our Process

- 1. Choose your lot.
- 2. Choose your Plan.
- 3. Make your Selections.
- 4. Let's get started.



### 4 Home Improvements to Beat the Winter Blues and Prepare for Spring

Although the beauty of winter snow can feel picturesque at first, the season's blustering chills and fading greenery can have the best of us feeling blue at times. To kick those feelings to the curb, consider introducing biophilic design to your living space.

Biophilic design incorporates elements of nature into the built environment, bringing our surroundings indoors. Why? Because there's evidence it makes us more productive and at peace.

Examples of biophilic design include adding houseplants, introducing natural light, buying furniture that matches your area's geography, or even adding nature sounds like wind chimes.

#### Here are some ways you can incorporate biophilic design into your home:

### 1. Add houseplants to make your space feel alive.

Adding low-maintenance greenery such as snake plants, succulents or cacti

can make your house brighter and more in tune with what you'd experience outside. Aside from the visual effects, plants are known to contribute to cleaner and healthier air to breathe, as well as reduce stress and increase productivity in people.

### 2. Use natural shapes and materials in your design.

Nature is filled with uneven shapes that appear more visually interesting than perfectly measured ones. Consider adding curved couches, chairs or tables to your decor, or adding arches into your build.

Also consider furniture pieces and finishing touches that incorporate naturally found materials, such as wood or stone. Exposure to wood in particular is thought to improve certain indicators of stress in humans.

#### 3. Usher in natural light.

No matter what region you live in, you can bathe your home with natural light by incorporating the right windows and doors. From skylights and clerestory windows to French or sliding doors, you can work with a home building professional to figure out which works best for your space.

### 4. Add familiar colors to rooms you spend the most time in.

Hues of greens you'd see on budding plants, the serene blues found in a lake, ocean or river, and pops of fall's golden yellows are just a few examples of visually captivating, soothing and mood-lifting colors to add. Try them on your walls, furniture or even cabinetry.

If you have a home project in mind and need professional help, you'll find all the local home pros at **FindTheHomePros.com**.





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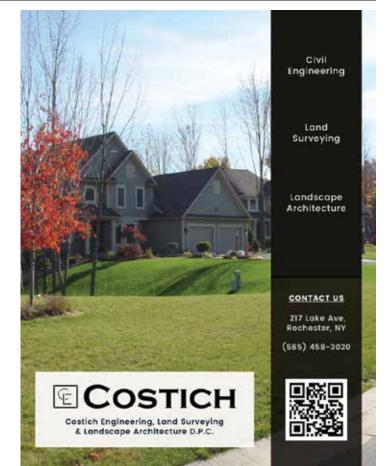
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### **Best Bets for Happy Pets**

Eating a good meal, taking a nap or playing outdoors are just a few of the simple pleasures in life that most pets and humans both appreciate. There are several ways you can show your pet how much they mean to you by incorporating certain design elements into your home. Many features will not only cater to your pet's lifestyle, but they can also enhance your home's appearance and add to its value.

Whether you're looking to buy a new home, remodel your existing home or just need some inspiration for how to use your current space, here are a few ideas to get started.

#### Improving Comfort and Convenience

Designing areas within your home where your pet can eat, sleep and bathe tells them that they are just as much a member of the family as everyone else. And having these dedicated locations can also help reduce the amount of time you spend cleaning up after your pet.

 Built-in eating areas are among the most popular designs concepts for homeowners with pets. Beneath the kitchen counter, under an island or within a pull-out drawer are all great options to help save space and minimize spills.

- Custom nooks provide your pet with a quiet retreat to nap or play. Look for opportunities to incorporate these nooks beneath bay windows, or convert a cluttered crawl space beneath stairs into your pet's private refuge.
- Pet-washing stations in laundry/ mud rooms can significantly improve the cleanliness of your home. An enclosed tiled area with an extended faucet can be used to give your pet a full bath or simply to clean paws after a romp in the outdoors.

### Selecting the Right Flooring

With the appropriate flooring, both you and your pet can live amicably without pointing fingers (or paws) at one another whenever a new scratch or a spill is discovered. Flooring options today are seemingly endless, and each type comes with varying levels of durability, so you'll want to do your research as well as consult with a professional before making the investment.

- Bamboo flooring is becoming increasingly popular, especially among pet owners, for its hardness and resistance to stains. And for those who are trying to be green, both bamboo and cork flooring are also good for the environment.
- Hardwood floors have long been among the most desirable options, though many different types of wood and finishes are highly prone to showing wear over time. Your local hardwood expert can help you make the right choice.
- Laminate, stone and tile floors might not be your best option if your pet's comfort is a top priority. While they are much more durable and typically resist scratches better than other flooring, some pets will find them to be uncomfortably hard and exceedingly slippery.

To find a home builder, remodeler or designer that can help you make the best home design choices for your pets look for your local professional at **FindTheHomePros.com** 

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All loans and lines are subject to credit approval. 'The No Closing Cost option is valid on most owner occupied, 1–4-family residential properties. Property and hazard insurance are required and are the responsibility of the borrower. For mortgages with less than 20% down payment, Private Mortgage Insurance (PMI) may be required and customer is responsible for PMI premiums. Other applicable fees/charges, including deed stamps or deed transfer taxes, are not mortgage closing costs and will not be paid by the Bank. If a customer elects to obtain owner title insurance, the customer is responsible for the one closing cost mortgage. Double-wide mobile homes are eligible for the no closing cost mortgage only if permanently attached to a foundation. Should the no closing cost mortgage be closed or discharged within the first three years, the Bank may collect the third-party closing costs from the customer that were waived when the loan was opened. If a customer selects an attorney to represent him/her, customer is responsible for attorney fees. Community Bank will not pay for a survey, nor any other item that is ordinarily paid for by the seller. ADDITIONAL "NO CLOSING COSTS" PRODUCT DISCLOSURE: "No closing costs" means no: origination fee/points; application fee; flood check fee; credit report fee; appraisal fee; mortgage recording fee; abstract update or title search fee; lender title insurance fees; bank attorney fee; mortgage recording tax.



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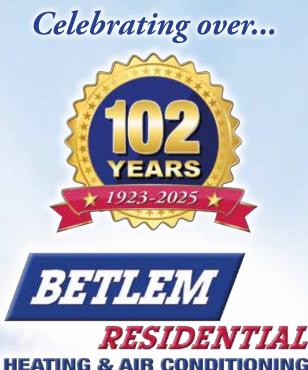


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## **Refresh Your Home with New Floors**

Minor upgrades to your home can make a big difference. The good news is that a home refresh doesn't always require a significant renovation. New flooring can change the look and feel of your home. Aside from style and décor, there are several factors to consider when deciding what flooring material to select when purchasing new floors. Cost, durability, moisture, and maintenance are important factors to consider in your new flooring choice and the area in your home you'll be refreshing. Here are some popular floor options among home owners to help you evaluate what works best for your home.

**Hardwood.** According to a recent home buyer preferences survey by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), an overwhelming share (81%) of home buyers said they want hardwood floors on their main living spaces. This popular flooring type is available in a various wood species, such as oak, cherry, and maple. Wood floors can be beautiful and durable if they are well-maintained.

**Laminate.** A popular, less expensive alternative to hardwood floors is laminate. This type of flooring option

comprises of various wood-based materials layered together, which are 'laminated' and finished off with a photographic imprint. Generally, laminate is available in tiles or planks and are relatively easy to install and maintain. However, laminate flooring is a viable option if you still want the look of hardwood floors without having them. Laminate is also more resistant to scuffs and scratches.

**Tile.** Porcelain and ceramic tiles come in beautiful designs, including diamond, herringbone, chevron, and basketweave, with shapes including circles, squares, rectangles, and triangles. The variety of designs may be one of the reasons why nearly two-thirds (64%) of home buyers prefer tile as a flooring choice in their main living areas. In addition, porcelain tile offers easy maintenance, durability, and stain and slip resistance.

**Carpet.** Depending on depth and fiber type, carpet can provide warmth and reduce noise. Carpet depth is categorized by low pile, medium pile, and high pile, most of which are available in various textures. Textures are created by the thickness of the yarn and how it is woven together to

make the carpet. Regular maintenance or hiring professional carpet cleaners is recommended with this option to keep your floor looking and feeling fresh year-round.

**Vinyl.** Cost-conscious home owners in search of a resilient flooring option should consider vinyl. Unlike other types of flooring, vinyl is ideal for areas in your home prone to moisture, such as laundry rooms or basements. Vinyl has adhesive and is available in sheets or tiles. Repairing damaged vinyl is as easy as removing and replacing it. However, there are several limitations to this type of floor. Vinyl is likely to scratch, can vary in quality and may not have a contemporary look compared to other flooring options.

A careful mix of flooring materials can make for a long-lasting and beautiful home and provide comfort for the pattering of many feet throughout the years. With the many options available, it's hard to go wrong.

For more information about flooring options or other home renovations in the new year, contact a local professional found at **FindTheHomePros.com** 



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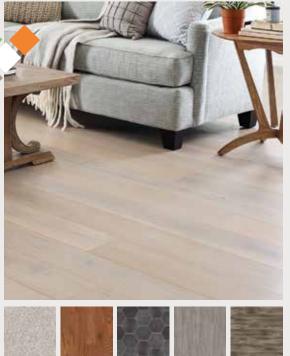
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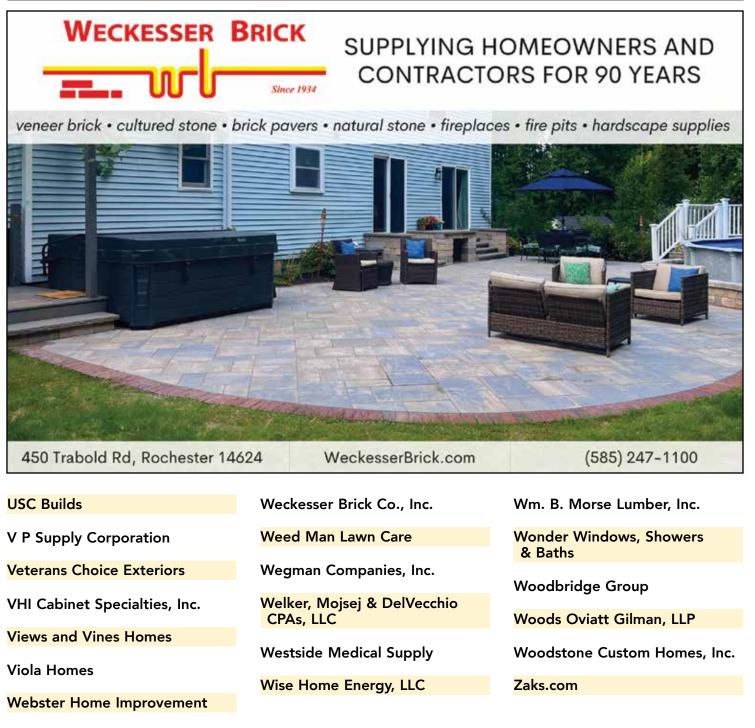
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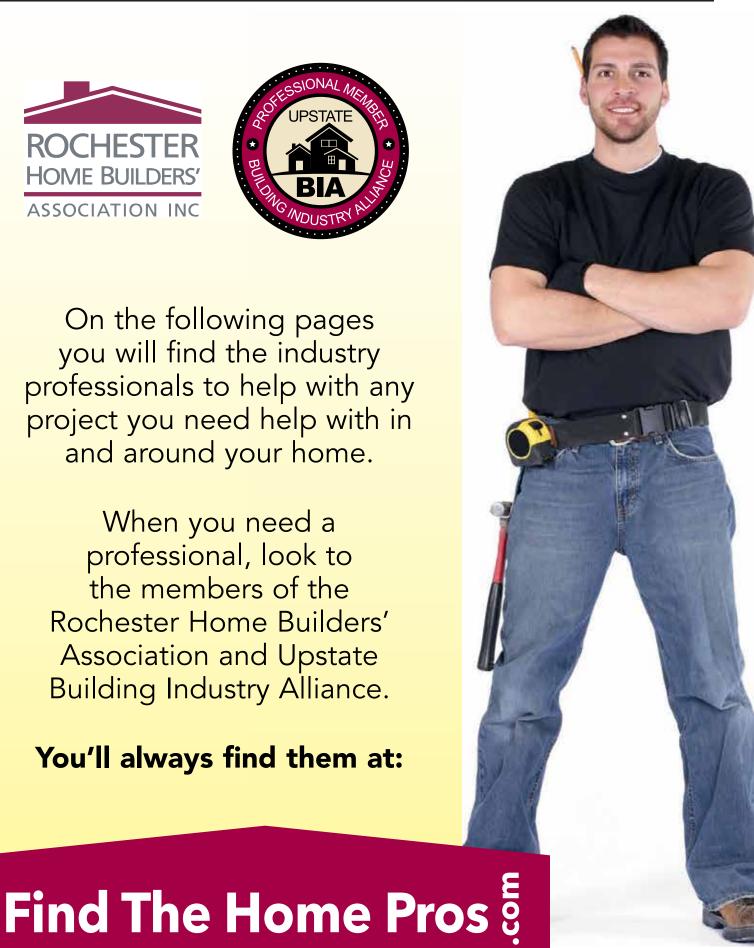




On the following pages you will find the industry professionals to help with any project you need help with in and around your home.

When you need a professional, look to the members of the Rochester Home Builders' Association and Upstate Building Industry Alliance.

You'll always find them at:



Please give these members your first consideration when buying materials, equipment or services.

#### ABSTRACTS AND TITLE INSURANCE

Stewart Title Insurance Company...... 585-232-4950

#### ACCOUNTANT

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CPAs, LLC		585-292-1041

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.585-381-7777
.585-202-0657
.585-377-3330
.315-524-7890
. 585-414-0761
.585-442-4689
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Residential Steel Services, LLC	.585-458-4150
Riefler Construction Products	.716-435-7663

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Healthy Spaces, Inc.	.585-755-6332
Neverwet Basement Waterproofing	.585-281-8009
Phelps Cement Products, Inc	.315-548-2221

#### BATH & SHOWER REMODELING

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Craftworks Custom	
Cabinetry	585-673-8006

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Marshall Exteriors, LLC	315-331-6462
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MIG Building Systems	585-385-3030
Miller Brick Co.	585-458-7745
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Cabinetr	y	585-673-8006

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Alternative Carbon Energy Systems, Inc.	585-935-7186
Betlem Residential Heating & Air Conditioning	585-271-4328
Boccacino Heating and Air Conditioning	585-454-2120
Green Guys Mechanical, LLC	585-667-4828
GreenSpark Solar	585-265-2384
V P Supply Corporation	585-272-0110

#### GLASS REPAIR AND INSTALL - AUTO

Mr. Glass Works, LLC ...... 585-271-1270

#### **GUTTERS**

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Fitch Construction, Inc.	. 585-377-3330
Graves Bros. Home Improvement Co.	. 585-288-3390
Long Construction	. 585-433-5664
Marshall Exteriors, LLC	. 315-331-6462
MIG Building Systems	. 585-385-3030
Morreall & Company	585-204-2005
Oasis Gutters	585-727-6860

#### **HARDWOOD FLOORS**

Harman Flooring Co., Inc	585-546-1221
MS International	585-672-0400

#### **HEATING/HVAC**

ABR Wholesalers, Inc.	585-482-3601
Aire Serv Heating and Air Conditioning	585-294-4898
Arndt Heating & Cooling	585-349-0781
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Henry Isaacs Home Remodeling <b>5</b>	85-293-2673
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John Lockwood Plumbing 5	85-265-0736
McKenna's Kitchen and Bath Center <b>5</b>	85-377-3434
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Turnbull Heating & Air Conditioning	85-501-9100
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Atlas Builders	585-381-7777
Barone Homes, Inc.	585-265-2100
Bowering Homes, Inc.	585-381-3376
Concal, LLC	585-730-8400
Crosstown Custom Homes of Rochester, Inc.	585-872-9100
D.J. Builders and Remodelers, Inc.	315-531-9074
D'Angelo Building & Design, LLC	585-330-6279
Danrich Homes, Inc.	585-223-4770
Dirisio Builders, Inc.	585-202-0657
Element Design/Build	585-727-3604
Faber Builders, Inc.	585-889-4840
Faber Builders, Inc.	585-303-3415
Fedyk Builders, Inc.	585-729-5009
Gauger & Swingly Construction, Inc.	585-265-1440
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Greater Rochester Habitat for Humanity	585-546-1470

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High Point Construction & Renovation, Inc	EOE 111 0761
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Hometown Design-Build, LLC	. 585-755-3012
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JEMS Constructors, LLC	
John Casey Construction, LLC	585-315-8218
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Marc-Mar Homes, Inc.	
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Matco Builders	. 585-266-5880
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Sickles Corp.	
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Marc-Equity Corporation.	
The Tra-Mac Group, LLC	
Views and Vines Homes	
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#### HOME THEATER/LUXURY CINEMA SALES & INSTALLATION

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#### **INSULATION**

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Foundation Building Materials	585-334-4020
John Betlem Heating & Cooling	585-271-8888
MIG Building Systems	585-385-3030

#### **INSULATION CONTRACTORS**

Advanced Thermal Technologies	. 585-865-5098
Albone Insulation, Inc.	585-590-2502
Coler Insulation	585-626-0629
Graves Bros. Home Improvement Co.	. 585-288-3390
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Marshall Exteriors, LLC	315-331-6462
MIG Building Systems	585-385-3030

#### **INSURANCE**

DG & M Agency, Inc.	585-271-3040
Eastern Shore Associates	
Insurance Agency	315-986-7017
Lawley	585-545-6691

#### **INTERIOR DESIGN**

EveryBody.Homes	585-474-5677
Trudi Smith Designs, LLC	585-236-3237

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Caves Kitchens & Built-in Cabinetry	585-831-2484
Claridge Decorating Centre	585-889-5800
Craftworks Custom Cabinetry	585-673-8006
Ferguson Enterprises	585-458-2930
Fitch Construction, Inc.	585-377-3330
Frontier Kitchens	585-825-4450

High Point Construction & Renovation, Inc	585-414-0761
Homes by Design, Inc.	585-455-1740
Hometown Design-Build, LLC	585-755-3012
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Nu-Look Cabinet Refacing, LLC	585-232-1750
NuView Construction, LLC	585-768-8439
Rochester Flooring Kitchen & Bath	585-427-7400
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#### LAND DEVELOPMENT

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Pooler Enterprises, Inc.	. 585-924-5200
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#### LANDSCAPE LIGHTING

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Weckesser Brick Co., Inc.	585-247-1100

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Joe Cutter Turf & Snow, LLC	585-248-8873
Lakeview Lawn & Landscape, Inc	585-394-6701
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UnderCover Systems of New York, LLC	585-754-0577
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Wm. B. Morse Lumber, Inc	585-328-1400

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Phelps Cement Products, Inc.	315-548-2221
Steve's Masonry and Fireplace Service	585-309-4295
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Neverwet Basement	
Waterproofing	585-281-8009

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Five Star Bank	585-733-8444
Genesee Regional Bank	.585-249-1540
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Premium Mortgage Corp	585-241-1000
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The Lyons National Bank	315-325-4507

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#### PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT & GROUND COVERINGS

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Howard Hanna	585-732-1817

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& Renovation, Inc.	585-414-0761

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The Metal Roof Outlet	585-703-4982
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#### **SAFETY PRODUCTS**

#### **SECURITY SYSTEMS**

#### **SIDING**

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Lakeside Quality Building Products	. 315-524-9420
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Graves Bros. Home Improvement Co.	. 585-288-3390
Long Construction	. 585-433-5664
Marshall Exteriors, LLC	. 315-331-6462
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Oaks Roofing and Siding	585-247-6257
Veterans Choice Exteriors	. 585-698-0768

#### **SKYLIGHTS**

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Marshall Exteriors, LLC	315-331-6462
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#### **SOLAR ENERGY**

3rd ROC Solar, LLC	585-218-0631
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Energy Systems, Inc	585-935-7186
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Graves Bros. Home	
Improvement Co.	585-288-3390
GreenSpark Solar	585-265-2384
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Roofing Rochester NY	585-727-8619
Solar by CIR	716-362-5000
V P Supply Corporation	585-272-0110
Viola Homes	585-671-9510

#### STEEL (STRUCTURAL AND REINFORCING)

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Tool Ranch	585-436-9807
<b>Residential Steel</b>	
Services, LLC	585-458-4150
<b>Riefler Construction</b>	
Products	716-435-7663
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#### STONE, PAVERS, BRICK

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Universal Forest Products	. 315-253-2758
Wm. B. Morse Lumber, Inc.	. 585-328-1400

#### WATER AND FIRE DAMAGE

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& Renovation, Inc	585-414-0761

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Apex Window Films ...... 585-424-3456

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Fitch Construction, Inc.	. 585-377-3330
Graves Bros.	
Home Improvement Co	. 585-288-3390

Lakeside Quality Building Products	.315-524-9420
Marshall Exteriors, LLC	315-331-6462
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## **The Future of Electric Heat Pumps**

The era of electric space heating is upon us. Within the next few years, air source heat pumps (ASHP) and Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHP) will be required by law. Fossil-fuel furnaces will no longer be allowed in new homes. This change will bring new risks for home builders.

**Performance varies,** but an ASHP can put 75 to 150% more energy into heating the home than it consumes in electricity. A GSHP bumps this to at least 300%. A properly sized and installed heat pump can provide incredible comfort. Zoning can easily be accomplished a few different ways. These sound like a great idea, right? It's "green" and you get free heat. What's not to like?

But the buyer gets the reward and the builder gets all the risk. And uninformed buyers, accustomed to how they ran their last house with "old" technology will have to change their ways. There are downsides that you should prepare for, and strategies to mitigate them.

Some buyers are not aware that it will cost more to use these "green"

heat sources. Both an ASHP and GSHP will cost more to operate than a new gas furnace. So your buyers will want to know why it costs so much more to heat your \*new\* house than their old house. Heat pumps also have a lower air delivery temperature, and will run longer, leading your buyers to believe there is something wrong with their heating system. And no wonder the electric bill is so high!

To mitigate these risks you need to focus even more on air sealing and using better insulation. This is a tried and true strategy. If the cost of energy to heat the house is expensive, then reduce the amount of heat you need to buy. So the use of expensive electricity is offset by the fact that the home is using less of it.

Air sealing is most important line of defense here because if cold air is leaking past your insulation, then it won't matter how much insulation you have, or what kind of insulation it is. 20 years ago, the average blower door test for an Energy Star new home in our area was 3.17 ACH50. Today's energy code requires new homes to be even lower than 3.0 ACH50. The coming heat pump wave will demand you provide even tighter homes than you make today. Airtightness below 2.0 ACH50 will become commonplace for you.

After you've air-sealed, you need to pick high performance insulation. For insulation, nothing beats spray foam. Spray foam has the benefit of having a higher R-value, and being airtight. A close runner-up to spray foam is cellulose insulation, either wallsprayed or dense-packed in walls, and blown-in to attics.

So in summary, ASHP will bring a new set of risks to a builder. And the equipment will have limitations. These risks can be mitigated with a better thermal envelope. Do better air sealing, and use better insulation.

Advanced Thermal Technologies is the leading provider of insulation, barrier coating, and geothermal energy solutions in Rochester, NY.

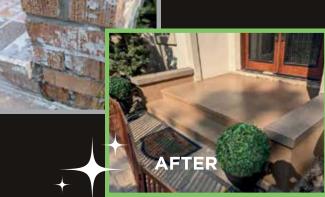
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