

Apartment Decoration Tips For The Budget Minded

Choosing new floors for your home can be a daunting task.

To help make the process a little less confusing, experts at flooring manufacturer Mannington Mills offer this advice:

• Consider the room's use. Is it a family room that gets a lot of traffic? A laminate floor would be a good choice here.

They're made to look like wood, stone or slate, but don't have any of the maintenance concerns that

those floors do.

Is it a kitchen or bath, where water is a concern? In that case, consider vinyl flooring. Both sheet vinyl and Luxury Vinyl are beautiful and durable - they're certainly not 'your grandmother's vinyl'.

They come in a wide variety of styles and colors, and can look amazingly real - from wood, to stone, to sisal.

• Consider your decorating style. Do you prefer traditional looks?

You might choose a classic oak or elegant cherry hardwood. One of the most popular looks in hardwood flooring today is the handscraped floor.

It offers a unique texture that can complement any décor. Is your style more eclectic? Mannington Bamboo might be more your preference.

Or perhaps you might choose a Luxury Vinyl floor like Mannington's award-winning ADURA®. It comes in tile and plank formats,

and replicates looks as varied as hammered metal, lava stone, and barn oak.

• Consider your lifestyle. Do you have children or pets? If so, you'll want to choose a super-durable flooring, like porcelain tile. Porcelain is harder and stronger than regular ceramic tile, and it needs little maintenance.

And today's porcelain tiles come in a wide variety of colors and sizes, including the newest modular formats, with an array of beautiful

decorative accent pieces to help give your floor a custom look. Is your home your sanctuary?

A beautiful, elegant hardwood floor might be just right for you.

Exotic cherry, maple, or mahogany bring warmth and elegance into your home, and Mannington's prefinished hardwood floors have beauty and durability that will last for years to come.

So when it comes to flooring, there's a look that will suit your life and your style.

Wallpaper Removal Tips

Love the look of new wallpaper, but dread the thought of removing the old? If you've ever tried stripping wallpaper using a homemade vinegar-and-water solution — or a heavy commercial steamer — you know what a tedious, unpleasant and time-consuming task it can be.

But wallpaper removal doesn't have to be a chore if you use the right tools and learn a few tricks from the professionals.

• **Step 1: Score the wallpaper.** Most wallpaper has a washable, waterproof surface. I

f the top layer won't easily peel away, it's necessary to score the wallpaper first to ensure that the wallpaper stripper is able to reach and loosen the glue underneath.

PaperTiger®, a palm-held tool with small cutting wheels that perforate the wallpaper without damaging the wall, is designed specifically for safe, fast and easy scoring.

• **Step 2: Apply a wallpaper stripper** like DIF® Wallpaper Stripper. Available in a liquid concentrate, gel or fast-acting liquid, it is safe, nontoxic and easy to use.

Apply the stripper one wall at a time, starting at the top and working your way down. It's formulated to penetrate and break down wallpaper paste quickly. In 20 minutes or less, the wallpaper will be ready for removal.

• **Step 3: Scrape off the loose wallpaper.** Paper Scraper™ helps get the wallpaper off without hard work or surface damage.

If any glue remains, simply reapply the stripper to the area, wait 15 to 20 minutes, remove it with Paper Scraper or a sponge and rinse with clean water. It's that simple.

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