

Floor Covering Media

Your Gateway to the Floor Covering Industry

Some look-alike products not only cost less but might be better for your home



When considering new projects for your home this year, there are ways to shave costs without sacrificing great design. Looking for ways to cut your budget? Why not consider look-alike products. These are alternatives that not only cost less but are even better for your home.



Using Porcelain Instead of Marble

Marble is making a comeback in bathrooms, kitchens, and flooring. Installation costs range from: \$100-\$300 square foot. Marble has some disadvantages, however. It is porous stone. Spilling red wine on a white marble countertop is not a stain easily removed. Acidic lemons can etch the stone. The same with lotions or hair dyes if marble is installed in a bathroom. Marble also contains minerals, buried deep within the stone. Exposure to heat and humidity can cause the Marble to rust.

Porcelain tiles have the look of marble and require less maintenance. Installation costs range from: \$4-\$10 a square foot. The properties of this material make it more attractive and less absorbant, which means they are far less likely to stain. Caring for porcelain tiles is easy, as few cleaning solutions will harm them.

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Using Luxury Vinyl Flooring Instead of Hardwood

Hardwood floors for homes are the standard and have been for years. They are considered timeless with many options for color and style. However, hardwood floors have maintenance concerns. Sensitivity to moisture can damage the floors. Overexposure to moisture is likely to cause warping in the wood and - in some cases - changes in the shade of the wood.

Vinyl plank flooring offers the rustic look of hardwood without the worry. It is a photographic image of hardwood flooring. With technological developments, it is not as easy to differentiate between hardwood flooring and vinyl plank flooring. Often homeowners are challenged to distinguish between the two by sight or touch until they are informed which is which.



Using Carpet for Rug Designs

Those on the creative side could make their own rugs from broadloom. Those on a budget look for affordable remnants.

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Flooring Updates

By Betty

Flooring Network

For those in the market and those that serve it

Floor Covering Media, a business network serving the floor covering industry, provides readers timely, objective news and information about flooring topics.

Floor Search

Answers to Questions About Flooring

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