Written by Rachel Tolander

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Home renovation is a crucial component of homeownership. Not only does it improve the short term functionality of the house, but it can greatly enhance the long term resale value of the home as well.

Unfortunately, given the proliferation of DIY home renovation materials, many people think they can just Google "how to use self drilling screws" or "how to install luxury vinyl flooring" and call it a home improvement. In reality, home renovation is an in-depth process that requires careful planning, analysis of current market trends, and masterful execution to ultimately be considered a success.

In this article, we will explore some of the trending home renovations in Arizona that are well-adapted to the high desert climate.

Choose Colors Suited for the High Desert Sun



When it comes to Arizona siding, many people's minds immediately turn to stucco. While stucco certainly has many benefits for the Arizona climate and offers strong protection against high winds and extended UV exposure, there are other products, such as fiber cement, that can perform equally well. The key when performing siding renovations is to remember that <u>exterior house colors</u> should be medium or light in tone--such as brown, beige, or tan--to reflect the abundant sun rays that the home is sure to receive.

Prioritize Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency is at the forefront of home renovation trends in 2024--a trend that is magnified in Arizona's warm climate. Without the proper energy efficiency measures, homeowners could be looking at major cooling costs at the height of summer. While solar panels and other types of PV technology are definitely worth consideration (assuming the financing makes sense) there are other projects that can help limit heat absorption. For example, applying the <u>best insulation for exterior walls</u> on the south side of the home can greatly limit the amount of heat that enters the home, while choosing reflective roofing can reduce the amount of heat that is transferred through the roof.

Let the Natural Light Flow

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As one of the sunniest regions in the country, Arizona homeowners would do well to leverage the abundant natural light to the fullest. Choose large windows that allow natural sunlight to flow into the home's interior. Be sure to pair them with functional window treatments that allow for increased control during the warmer seasons of the year. Opt for open interiors that do not block the natural light flow and create a more spacious ambience.

Add Functionality to Exterior Spaces



Arizona is one of the most beautiful states in America, and buyers are willing to pay a premium for homes that have functional exterior spaces that allow them to enjoy this beauty. Choose low profile decking and railing to permit unencumbered views of the mountain scenery. Add awnings and pergolas to outdoor gathering spots to provide some shade from the shining sun. Plant lavender for its low maintenance upkeep and key role in enhancing a beautiful and serene outdoor ambience.

Make Kitchens a Focal Point

There is a prevailing sentiment among realtors that kitchens sell houses. This is especially true in Arizona. Given the state's strong attraction for retirees, part-time residents, and remote professionals, the market just lends itself to homeowners who have an eye on hosting. Therefore, look at kitchen features that can take center stage among guests. Opt for durable, low maintenance quartz countertops, elegant hardwood floors, and deep, farmhouse style sinks to help the kitchen make a major statement during get-togethers.

Consider Water Conservation Features

Much like energy efficiency, modern homeowners prioritize low-water features as part of a sustainable home infrastructure. This is doubly true in Arizona, where water can become dear in the desert climate. While xeriscaping the lawns is a great place to start, do not forget about the interior as well. Low flow fixtures and water-efficient appliances can really stand out to a more conscientious market.

Create a Bathroom Oasis

When renovating Arizona bathrooms, it is a great idea to choose light, airy materials that create a calming sense of oasis. Look into racks and open wicker baskets for storage in place of traditional cabinets. Carefully place plants near windows to infuse a sense of light into the space. Look at white shiplap walls to provide some soothing texture while reflecting light and brightening up the space.

The Best Home Renovations for Arizona's Unique Climate

Although home renovation is an essential component of homeownership, not all renovations are created equal in terms of value-added. This is

The Art of Adaptation: Navigating Home Renovations to Suit Arizona's Unique Climate

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especially true given Arizona's unique climate, where ill-planned renovations can actually do more harm than good. By considering any of the specific projects listed above and exploring the other resources available at <u>Arizona Foothills Magazine</u>, homeowners can feel confident that they are making the right choices for improving their property in the unique Arizona market.