

5 MISTAKES NOT TO MAKE THE FIRST YEAR IN YOUR NEW HOME

Congratulations on purchasing your new home! Now that you're moved in and settled, the possibilities of what you can do are endless - put up a fresh coat of paint, redecorate the guest bedroom, plant some flowers in the backyard.

On the flip side, there are a few things you do NOT want to do during your first year in your home. To help out, we've compiled an easy to execute list.



DON'T make any major changes.

Live in your home for awhile before tearing down walls or building add-ons. Take some time to think about long-term benefits versus immediate gratification. What you initially think you want may change after you've lived there for a while.



DON'T overlook tax breaks.

Talk with your CPA and do your research. There are a lot of incentives - both state and local - that you might benefit from financially that you might not be aware of. On a similar note, save every receipt pertaining to your home.



DON'T put off small fixes.

Leaky sinks or sprinkler drainage issues may seem like problems, but water damage can mean BIG problems for your home's structure. Keep an eye out for these issues and, don't put off getting them fixed.



DON'T equate cheaper to better.

If you're hiring a contractor, do your research. Often, the lowest estimate isn't the best option and may actually end up costing you more money in the long run. Do your research and ask for references.



DON'T skimp on saving.

Unlike renting, you're responsible for every repair your home needs. Some occurrences can be planned for, while others cannot. Create a savings account specifically for your home and contribute to it monthly.