

May 2025

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**Shoals Edition**



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**TIMES**  
DAILY



# How to prepare landscapes for new plants

– by METRO NEWS –

**New plants can add much to a landscape. Whether they're replacing plants that are no longer thriving or being added to supplement an existing landscape, new plants are an affordable way to give a home's exterior a whole new look.**

**Much consideration is given to which plants to add to a landscape. That's understandable, as homeowners want to choose plants that will thrive and won't compromise the health of surrounding plants and trees. Before planting or even choosing plants, it's important to plan for new additions to a landscape. Preparing the landscape can inform homeowners about which plants to purchase and can ensure they thrive after planting.**

- Document sunlight exposure. Plants have different needs, and one of the biggest differences between species is the amount of sunlight they need to thrive. According to Penn State Extension, plants characterized as “full sun” require six or more hours of sunlight per day, while those considered “partial sun” need between four and six hours of sunlight per day. Plants designated as “partial shade” need two to four hours of sun per day, while “shade” plants need less than two hours of sunlight a day. Documenting sunlight exposure in advance gives homeowners an idea of which plants should be planted and where they should be planted. Jot down these observations in a journal over several weeks and then choose plants that will thrive in each area.

- Test the soil. A soil pH test is a simple and quick way to determine the acidity of soil. Soil pH levels will indicate how likely a plant is to thrive in a given spot. High levels won't necessarily mean an area should be avoided, as some plants thrive in acidic soils. Additional soil tests can determine other characteristics, such as the nutrient levels of soil and the amount of organic matter it contains. Each of these variables can help homeowners make the right choices as they introduce new plants to their properties.

- Consider local wildlife. If local wildlife makes its presence known on a property, homeowners may want to take proactive steps prior to planting anything new. A new fence might prevent animals

like deer from getting in, but that likely won't do much to repel smaller animals like squirrels, rabbits or foxes. If wildlife is a concern, homeowners can seek advice at their local garden center about which plants certain animals are likely to ignore. Homeowners who want to attract wildlife can do the same in reverse, choosing plants wildlife will be drawn to. Homeowners who want to deter wildlife should erect fencing or other barriers prior to planting.

- Clear space if necessary. Plants grow up and out, and cramped quarters can make it hard for new plants to thrive. Some may thrive but only at the expense of other plants. If necessary, clear space prior to planting to ensure plants have ample space to grow.



Some pre-planting landscape preparation can ensure new plants thrive.





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Creek runs thru property. 2BR/1BA.  
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\$85,000



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**5136 HWY 17 - FLORENCE**  
3000sf+/- ... Commercial-Main Level  
1,200sf+/- ... Residential-Upper Level  
... \$230,000 ...




**SHEFFIELD**  
109 Park Terrace Ct  
3BR/2BA - 2,288sf+/-  
Finished Basement  
\$269,900



**NEW PRICE**

**KENDALE GARDENS - NEW LISTING**  
317 Cypress Cove - 4BR/3.1BA  
2573sf+/-, updated home  
finished basement ..... \$434,000



**WATERFRONT - WILSON LAKE**  
100 Terrapin Close - Killen  
4BR/5.3BA - 7446SF+/-  
All the amenities of waterfront  
living... \$2,299,000




**NEW CONSTRUCTION  
WATERFRONT**  
237 Ridgecrest Dr, Florence  
5BR/3.1BA, 2947sf+/-, 108.10'WF+/-  
\$879,900




**NEW PRICE**

**NEW CONSTRUCTION - 1.21 ACRES+/-**  
1589 CR 16 - FLORENCE  
4BR/2BA - 1972sf+/-  
open floor plan, quartz  
countertops - \$350,900



**NEW PRICE**

**NEW CONSTRUCTION - 1.38 ACRES+/-**  
1567 CR 16 - FLORENCE  
4BR/2BA - 2,103sf+/-  
open floor plan, quartz  
countertops - \$355,900



**PENDING**

**NEW CONSTRUCTION**  
200 Chestnut Oak, Florence - 3BR/2BA -  
2482SF+/-, One level. Unique quality built  
home with 10' Ceilings, quartz & granite  
countertops, appliances... \$454,900



**NEW PRICE**

**NEW CONSTRUCTION**  
136 Allens Way, Florence - 4BR/3BA -  
2,736sf+/-, Glazed cabinets, Granite  
countertops, hardwood floors, Office, upper  
4th BR/Bonus Rm with full bath... \$550,400



**NEW CONSTRUCTION**  
109 Jefferson Avenue, Muscle Shoals  
4BR/2BA - 1647sf+/-  
\$315,900



**NEW CONSTRUCTION**  
113 Jefferson Avenue  
Muscle Shoals  
3BR/2BA - 1338sf+/- - \$274,900



**SOLD**

**WATERFRONT - WILSON LAKE**  
539 Lime Kiln Hollow Dr, Muscle Shoals  
2BR/1.1BA - A-Frame ... \$475,000



**UNDER CONSTRUCTION**  
101 Allens Way, Florence  
4BR/3.1BA, 2955sf+/-,  
Custom cabinets, granite countertops  
large back deck ..... \$614,640



**UNDER CONSTRUCTION**  
302 Kellylyn Lndg, Florence  
4BR/3BA, 2710sf+/-, custom cabinets,  
granite countertops .... \$563,680





**UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

96 Vaughn Ave, Killen  
3BR/2BA - 1520sf+/-  
Open Floor Plan - \$309,900



**UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

108 Vaughn Ave - Killen  
3BR/2BA - 1520sf+/-  
Open Floor Plan - \$309,900



**UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

120 Vaughn Ave - Killen  
3BR/2BA - 1520sf+/-  
Open Floor Plan - \$309,900



**NEW CONSTRUCTION**

102 Seymore - Florence  
3BR/2BA - 1338sf+/- • \$259,900



**NEW CONSTRUCTION**

107 Jefferson Ave, Muscle Shoals  
3BR/2BA - 1338sf+/- • \$259,900



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**CHEROKEE - 5 ACRES**

Riverton Rose Trail  
\$25,000



**FLORENCE - 2 LOTS**

Highland Ave - Zoned Multifamily  
\$26,000



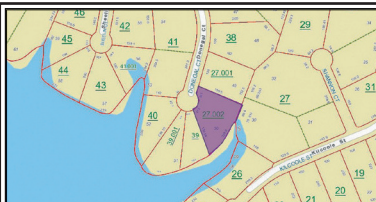
**FLORENCE - 5 LOTS**

Veterans Dr - Near Hospital  
\$59,000



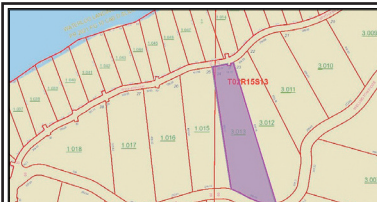
**CHEROKEE - .49 ACRES+/-**

Waterloo Landing - Lot 31  
\$54,900



**MUSCLE SHOALS - 228.5 WF+/-**

Donegal Ct - Peytona Points  
\$175,000



**CHEROKEE - 3.0 ACRES+/-**

Waterloo Landing - Lot 24  
\$99,000



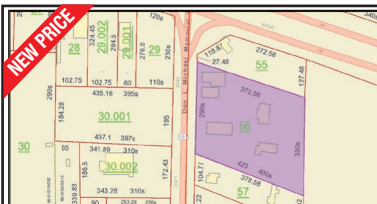
**CHEROKEE - 3.11 ACRES +/-**

Waterloo Landing - Lot 25  
\$110,000



**MUSCLE SHOALS - 107.48 WF+/-**

Eagle View Dr - Main Wilson Lake  
\$215,000



**ROGERSVILLE - 3 ACRES**

Hwy 72/101 Corner - Metal building  
on property .. \$1,000,000



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**001 Veterans Dr., Florence**  
Lot Size 125' X 120'  
MLS# 514429  
Asking Price: \$130,000



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**906 S Atlanta Ave, Sheffield**  
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Asking Price: \$85,000

# Did you know?

by Metro News

Homeowners with an eye on home improvement projects should know that kitchens and bathrooms tend to be the most costly rooms to renovate. An affiliate of the National Kitchen and Bath Association told Architectural Digest in 2023 that kitchens and bathrooms require the most labor-intensive renovations, which contributes significantly to the high costs of such projects. Labor is indeed a significant cost when renovating a home, as the



Construction Labor Market Analyzer indicates labor cost percentages in construction are between 20 and 40 percent of the total budget of a given project. The final cost of any renovation project will depend on a host of variables unique to each home, including the square footage of the room being remodeled and the

materials homeowners choose. However, homeowners looking for less costly renovations may want to consider revamping their dining rooms and closets, each of which are projects that can make a difference and tend to require a less significant financial commitment than projects like kitchen and bath remodels.





# DH

## DOLAN HOMES

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REALTOR

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### 130 Wynchase Drive, Muscle Shoals

Fall in Love with a New Home! This stunning home boasts of 5 bdrms 3 baths 3400 sq.ft. Inside you will find high end finishes and outside is equipped with an in-ground pool, multiple covered patios and a detached garage with professional golf simulator. Don't wait to see this one-of-a-kind home!



**58 Price Dr., Florence**  
**Offered at \$184,000**

3 bed 2 bath large oversized fenced in yard. Completely remodeled and move in ready.



### 124 Williams Way, Tuscumbia

**Offered at \$499,000**

This stunning newer built home offers 5 spacious bedrooms and 2.5 baths and a large fenced in yard. Inside you will find an open-concept design, the home boasts a gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, and a large island, seamlessly flowing into the bright and airy living and dining areas. The luxurious primary suite includes a large walk-in closet and a spa-like bath for ultimate relaxation. With a large backyard, this home provides ample space for outdoor entertaining or peaceful retreats. Located in a desirable neighborhood close to schools, parks, shopping, and major highways, this home is a rare find. Don't miss out, schedule your tour today!



**69 CR 284, Florence**  
**Offered at \$299,900**

Fall in Love with a New Home! Welcome to this beautiful new construction home featuring 3 spacious bedrooms and 2 full baths. Step inside to enjoy an open-concept layout with a vaulted ceiling in the main living area, adding both height and elegance. The large laundry room provides ample storage and convenience, while the 2-car garage offers both functionality and additional storage options. Enjoy outdoor living with a covered back porch and a generously sized backyard, perfect for entertaining, gardening, or relaxing. Don't miss your chance to make this stunning property your own. Schedule a showing today!

643421-1



### Singing River Ridge Lot 23, 1/2 acre at Robert Trent Jones Golf Course, Muscle Shoals

**Offered at \$34,900**

Looking for the perfect spot to build your dream home? This lot is ready to build and in an up-and-coming neighborhood complete with beautiful homes and a peaceful setting. Wilson Lake is across the street and the prestigious Robert Trent Jones Golf Course backs up to this subdivision. Come see this beautiful half acre lot and fall in love. This lot sits on the right after driving through the brick entrance to the neighborhood with a sign in the yard.



**1248 Glenn Ave, Florence**

Nestled in the heart of downtown Florence, this charming cottage perfectly blends classic character with modern updates. Completely remodeled and move-in ready, it features stunning original hardwood floors that exude warmth and history, complemented by fresh new cabinets, sleek countertops, and a beautifully modern bathroom. The cozy covered porch invites you to relax and enjoy the vibrant neighborhood. Just minutes from the university and the lively urban scene, this delightful home offers both convenience and charm in an unbeatable location.



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**548 Malone Circle - Florence**

3 bed, 1.5 bath, brick house conveniently located in Florence. This 1916 sq ft house offers large open rooms for living and entertainment, a covered patio, and a 10ft x 10ft outbuilding. \$194,900



**Waterfront Lot w/ Guest House - Florence**  
Wonderful 1.8+/- acre tract on Shoal Creek with a unique retreat/guest house, a pier, impressive retaining walls, and a natural sea wall. The property, which includes 2 lots, offers multiple building sites and serene views. Suitable for short term rentals or an entertainment space, the main floor of the opulent retreat house has a bedroom, 1.5 bathrooms with granite vanities, a kitchen with granite countertops and bar, and a walkout to a spacious deck. A cozy loft area provides additional space for lounging or sleeping. Whether you're looking for a nice getaway or a place to build your dream house (or houses), this property allows your imagination to flourish. 235 Longshore Dr., \$785,000



**2009 Midway St. - Florence**

2 Bedroom, 1 bath house in the heart of Florence. The house offers 1116 sq. ft. of living space and a fenced yard. \$75,000



**49.91 Ac on Bluewater Creek - Loretto TN**

Scenic 49.91+/- acres with 1700 ft on Bluewater Creek. This unique property offers pasture and hardwoods on level, rolling and steep terrain. Must see to appreciate. 493 Rascal Town Rd, \$324,900



**Delaney Trace - CR 111 Killen**

Charming Country Living at its Best. Come be a part of this exciting new development on the east end of Killen in the Center Star community. With beautiful skies and peaceful scenery, Delaney Trace welcomes you home. Call for more info.



**Amazing 2.4+/-Ac, 700'+ Waterfront - Florence**

Opulent views, tranquil sunsets, and serenity abound at this outstanding Wilson Lake tract in Pierrefont Estates. This rare 2.4+/- acre paradise with over 700' of waterfrontage provides the ideal setting for your dream home or family compound. No expense has been spared in getting this property ready to build. An approx. 300' man-made seawall with a sidewalk runs along the western property line while an approx. 400' natural seawall fronts the main lake. An expansive 35' x 45' mostly-covered pier with boat and jet ski lifts is waiting to come to life and a wonderfully-placed, oversized gazebo with a fire pit provides breathtaking views. The entire length of Wilson Lake from Wheeler to Wilson Dams can be seen from this property. Impressive retaining walls, concrete steps, a storage building, exquisite landscaping, and a sprinkler system have been put in place. Come see some of mother nature's beauty at her best. 706 Ridgecliff Dr., \$1,500,000



**3.6 Ac CR 88 - Anderson**

Gently rolling and wooded 3.6+/- acres in the Lexington area. This unrestricted property offers over 900' of road frontage on CR 88 and a small stream. The land is perfect for quiet, country living. \$49,900



**855 Turtle Cove WF Lot - Killen**

Beautiful Waterfront Lot with a Breathtaking View! This unique 1.38+/- acre property is perfectly located in Killen, just off of Hwy 72, in Turtle Cove. The 147 feet of waterfront offers year-round water on Six Mile Creek, just around the bend from Wilson Lake. Must see to appreciate. \$324,900



**Lingerlost Landing Killen**

Waterfront Lots in Lingerlost Landing. Come be a part of this exciting new development in the heart of Killen with relaxing river frontage, beautiful views and enchanting wooded acreage. Call for more info. **ONLY 5 WATERFRONT LOTS LEFT!**



**Commercial Lot, 0.69+/- Ac. Hwy 72 - Killen**

Great location on Hwy 72 in the Killen city limits. This lot offers excellent commercial potential with frontage on Hwy 72 and Old Lexington Road. \$165,000

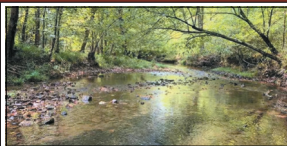


**25+/- Acres, CR 108 - Elgin Area**  
Scenic 25+/- acre tract with 600'+ on CR 108. The property offers gently rolling pasture, is partially fenced, and includes a beautiful, 1+ acre pond. Call for more information.



**1 Ac Commercial Lot - Killen**

Great 1+/- acre commercial lot in Killen. With road frontage Alabama St, this corner facing tract offers tremendous potential for many business ventures. \$97,500.



**68+/-Ac on Six Mile Creek - Killen**

If you're looking for stunning land for recreation or to build the estate of your dreams, this rare property is for you. Perfectly located in Killen, this 68+/- acre tract offers just about everything you could ask for. Beautiful pastures and mature hardwoods abound on the level to rolling terrain. With over 1,000 feet of frontage on Six Mile Creek, peaceful country living is a given. You must see this outstanding gem to appreciate its potential. Co Rd 25 Killen, \$724,900



**3 Acre Lot in Waterloo Landing - Cherokee**

Scenic views abound on this unique, restricted river view property. Waterloo Landing is a stunning gated community located on Pickwick Lake just minutes away from Hwy 72. The wooded lot is a nature lovers dream with abundant wildlife and peaceful sunsets overlooking the river. Must see to appreciate. Call for more info.

# How to boost home value before selling

by Metro News

People considering buying or selling a home are facing a unique market. The real estate market has been in flux for several years, and high interest rates have made it more expensive to borrow.

The Mortgage Bankers Association is projecting that 30-year mortgage rates will level out to 6.5 percent for the foreseeable future. That means that people who have been waiting for changes in the real estate market could be disappointed, and hesitant buyers may finally just bite the bullet and buy even if mortgage rates are not where they hoped they'd be in 2025. Homeowners with properties they are considering listing for sale would be wise to make certain changes that will help garner the best prices from buyers.

## Make kitchen and bath improvements

The kitchen is the heart of many homes. Real estate agents may recommend that homeowners make minor to moderate kitchen upgrades like resurfacing cabinets, upgrading countertops and changing fixtures or



hardware to give the room an overhaul.

Homeowners also should look to bathroom updates as smart investments that can improve home value. Katie Severance, author of *The Brilliant Home Buyer*, characterizes kitchens and baths as “money rooms” that add the most value to a home.

## Declutter the home

Homeowners should clean out items they no longer need. Decluttering can make a space feel bigger, which is beneficial in a market where open concept floor plans remain popular among home buyers.

When buyers walk through a prospective home, they want to envision themselves living there, something that is more easily done if the home isn't overrun with the current homeowner's belongings.

## Get to painting

Painting a home is a cost-effective renovation with a lot of oomph. Freshly

painted rooms appear clean and updated, says HGTV, and that can appeal to buyers. Homeowners should choose neutral colors to accommodate the widest array of potential buyers.

## Improve the landscaping

The exterior of a home is the first thing potential buyers will see as they roll up to view a property or look at a listing online. Homeowners should start by evaluating and enhancing the landscaping. Ensure the lawn is well-maintained and add plants that provide color without a lot of maintenance.

## Expand usable space

Homeowners can think about adding to the usable space in a home. This translates into finishing basements or attics or even converting garages to rooms. Or it may involve adding a three-season room.

Homeowners can consider a number of improvements to increase the resale value of their properties.



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# Tips to make a bedroom a more relaxing space

by Metro News

Homes are often characterized as sanctuaries. A home's interior spaces can provide a respite from the hustle and bustle of daily life no matter what's going on in the outside world.

Perhaps no space inside a home should be more relaxing than a bedroom. But bedrooms are not impervious to the hectic pace of life unless homeowners make a concerted effort to transform these spaces into relaxing respites. By implementing a variety of strategies, homeowners can ensure bedrooms embody the notion that homes are sanctuaries for their residents.

- Install new window treatments. Blinds, curtains, shades, and other window treatments come in a variety of styles and colors, ensuring there's at least one out there that can match an existing design scheme in a bedroom. Window treatments can be utilized to create a cozy vibe in a bedroom, blocking out lights from outside, including natural light from the sun and moon but also street lamps and decorative lights from neighboring properties. This can ensure bedrooms are a peaceful and welcoming

respite when homeowners and residents return home each night.

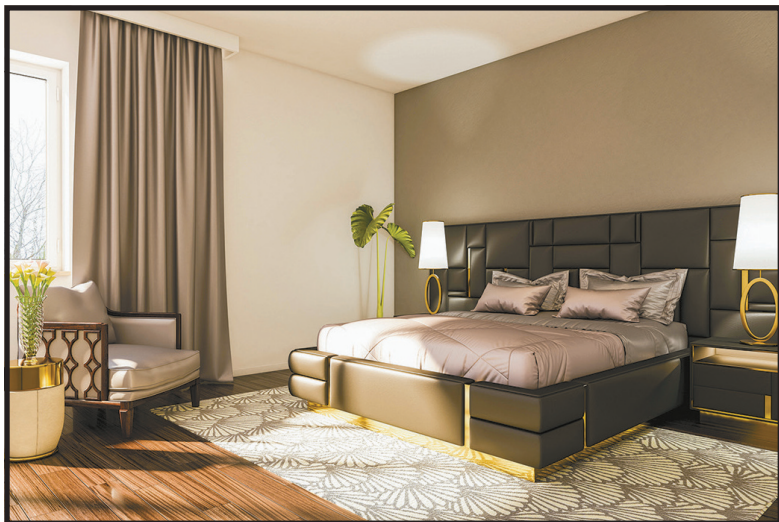
- Make the room a device-free zone. If escapism is an end goal, then turning a bedroom into a device-free zone is a must. Televisions, tablets and smartphones ensure the distractions and stressors of everyday life are never too far away, so removing these devices from bedrooms can help to establish a more peaceful bedroom environment. In addition, the National Sleep Foundation reports that using devices in a bedroom tends to reduce sleep duration by delaying the time users go to sleep.

- Reconsider the lighting. Bedroom lighting is another variable that merits consideration when trying to transform the space into a more relaxing room. Ambient lighting can be utilized to create a soft and welcoming atmosphere in the room. Dimmable lights also allow residents to adjust the amount of light depending on

the time of day. Lights can be bright when getting dressed in the morning, and then turned down when residents are going to bed and want to unwind before closing their eyes.

- Clear out clutter. A cluttered bedroom is more than an eyesore. The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners notes that clutter can contribute to anxiety and adversely affect individuals' ability to sleep and focus. Examine bedrooms to see if there is any unnecessary or overly bulky furnishings that make the spaces feel cramped and cluttered. Remove those items when possible, or consider working with a contractor to expand the room if budget and space allows.

Bedrooms can be respites within the larger sanctuary that homes are meant to be. That's especially so when residents implement strategies to transform bedrooms into more relaxing spaces.





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# Tech upgrades for your home entertainment space

by Metro News

Life in the twenty-first century can feel like it's moving at breakneck speed. Perhaps nowhere is that feeling more pronounced than within the technology sector, where new products are often upstaged by more advanced models, sometimes within a few weeks of an item's initial release.

The speed with which technology advances can make it difficult to keep up. However, it's important to note that software updates can bring devices up to speed in a matter of minutes, often at no cost to users. That can quiet concerns some may have about investing in entertainment room technology. For those ready to move forward with their entertainment room remodel, these tech upgrades can take such spaces to the next level.

- **New television:** Consumers who like to watch television but are not necessarily into what makes certain televisions more suitable to their viewing habits than others may find their heads spinning when they begin their search for a new device. Indeed, the alphabet soup of OLED, QLED, 4K, and other television styles can be difficult to navigate. If confusion reins over your television shopping trips, it might help to identify what you watch most often and then find the type of TV that most suits your viewing habits. Though opinions vary and consumers should always trust their own eyes, the United Kingdom-based Smart

Home Sounds recommends OLED televisions for movie and television lovers as well as gamers who require fast response times. Sports fans may benefit by prioritizing refresh rate when shopping for a new television. Though refresh rate is not the only variable to consider, a faster refresh rate can ensure games don't look fuzzy when the action picks up.

- **Speaker system:** Surround sound can take any entertainment setup to the next level. Modern televisions are slim and that sleek design does not always translate to great built-in sound. Though some recent models feature dramatically improved built-in sound capabilities compared to

rear speakers in place.

- **Lighting:** Entertainment room lighting can be easy to overlook, particularly when consumers go down the television and sound system rabbit holes. But the right lighting can set the perfect tone in an entertainment room. The decision of which lighting to go with should include consideration of how the space will (or won't) be used when you aren't watching the latest blockbuster or big game. If the room is exclusively for movies or big games, then lighting that calls to mind a movie theater, complete with LED strip lights on the walls, is an option worth considering. If the entertaining space is your living room and a



their slim screen ancestors, a home theater system featuring superior sound is still a must. A home theater surround sound system with subwoofer and Bluetooth connectivity can greatly improve the viewing experience no matter what's on-screen. For consumers working on a tight budget, a soundbar that can be upgraded with additional surround sound speakers down the road can be a great way to slowly build a theater-like sound system in your living room. When purchasing a surround sound system, consumers also can consider speaker stands that hold larger

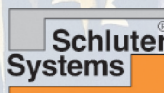
space where you're just as likely to read a book as enjoy a family movie night, then recessed lighting in the ceiling with dimmable bulbs allows you to pivot back and forth between lighting schemes depending on how the room is being used at any given moment.

It's easy to get lost when considering tech upgrades for an entertainment room. But pairing the right television with great sound and appropriate lighting can make for a consistently impressive viewing experience.



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| JANUARY 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 29           | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5            | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12           | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19           | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26           | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  |

| FEBRUARY 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 26            | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  |
| 2             | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9             | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16            | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23            | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 1  |

| MARCH 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S          | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 23         | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 1  |
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| 16         | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23         | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30         | 31 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |

| APRIL 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 6          | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13         | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20         | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27         | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  |

| MAY 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| S        | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 11       | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18       | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
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| JUNE 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 22        | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29        | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |

| JULY 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| S         | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 13        | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20        | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27        | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  |

| AUGUST 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 17          | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24          | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31          | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |

| SEPTEMBER 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| S              | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 7              | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14             | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21             | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28             | 29 | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |

| OCTOBER 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 28           | 29 | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
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| 12           | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19           | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26           | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  |

| NOVEMBER 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 9             | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16            | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23            | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30            | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |

| DECEMBER 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 30            | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14            | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21            | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28            | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  | 3  |

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TM20024



# Maintaining a lawn routinely roamed by pets

by Metro News

Vibrant, green lawns can draw attention to any landscape. Many homeowners toil for hours each week to ensure their lawns are pristine, or invest in lawn care services to help maintain a yard if they do not have the time to do so themselves.

While many treatments can be applied to lawns to help them thrive, animal waste is not among them. Pet owners who aspire to have beautiful lawns will have to take a few extra steps to ensure lawns can persevere despite the presence of furry companions.

## Reseed with a damage-resistant grass

There are many different types of grass, and some are more resilient than others. Tall fescue, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, and Bermuda grass are just some of the grass varieties that can capably handle pet traffic. If replacing the entire lawn is not possible, consider reseeding or addressing the areas that pets frequent.

## Strengthen the root system

It may be tempting to cut the lawn short, particularly if dogs or cats like to nibble on longer blades of grass. But that approach could be doing the lawn a disservice. According

to The Home Depot, letting the lawn grow to at least three inches will help keep moisture in the soil and prevent evaporation. That moisture will strengthen the roots, creating a healthier lawn for pets and people.

## Create pet paths

Various materials can be used in these high-traffic areas to minimize the sights and signs of pet traffic. Mulch or crushed stone can establish these pet highways and look like intended features.

## Avoid chemical lawn treatments

When pets use the yard and rest on the lawn, you'll need to eliminate products that can be harmful to them. Choose all-natural fertilizers and weed and pest preventatives.

## Look for alternatives

If maintaining a lawn with pets seems like an uphill battle, consider swapping out your landscape with a variety of materials. Scale back on grass, and incorporate groundcover, hardscape materials like pea gravel, or



## Set boundaries

Pet urine contains high levels of nitrogen, which can burn grass and turn it brown. It's not possible to water down urine or pick up solid waste immediately every time a pet goes outdoors, so designate a pet-friendly spot for potty time. Use fencing or a dog run to separate this area and help mitigate "land mines" all over the lawn. Fencing also can keep pets out of vegetable gardens and away from potentially toxic plants.

extend the patio. Artificial turf also is an option, as it won't brown and wither. Some turf products can even be quickly and thoroughly cleaned with water.

It can take some trial and error for pet parents to protect their lawns from the effects of having furry friends playing in the yard.



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