

# GreenPoint**RATED**

*Assurance that your remodel is healthy, efficient and green.*



## **GreenPointers: Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy**

- 1 CHANGE YOUR HABITS**
- 2 CHANGE YOUR HOME**
- 3 CHANGE WHERE YOUR ENERGY COMES FROM**

With this three-step approach to home energy use, you can reduce your energy bills without sacrificing comfort. Making your home more energy efficient and using renewable energy will also lower demand on California's power grid and reduce your home's impact on climate change.

## 1. CHANGE YOUR HABITS

### **Small steps like these can make a big difference:**

- Turn off lights and electronics when not in use
- Dial down the thermostat before going to bed
- Wash laundry in cold water
- Use the clothes dryer's moisture-sensing setting or use a clothesline
- Use the dishwasher's water-saver and no-air-dry settings
- Unplug underutilized extra refrigerators

List other energy-saving habits that make sense for your household:

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## 2. CHANGE YOUR HOME

Some home energy upgrades require little effort, while others involve DIY skills or professional expertise. Learn about these improvements and more ways to make your home energy efficient at [www.GreenPointRated.com](http://www.GreenPointRated.com). And find out about rebates and qualified contractors at [www.EnergyUpgradeCA.org](http://www.EnergyUpgradeCA.org).

- Replace incandescent light bulbs with fluorescent or LED bulbs
- Put weatherstripping around doors and windows and use caulk and spray foam to seal air leaks
- Insulate hot water pipes
- Improve attic insulation
- Choose Energy Star labeled appliances and home electronics
- Install low-flow faucets and showerheads
- Install ceiling fans or a whole house fan for cooling
- Install storm windows or solar control film on single-pane windows
- Have a home performance expert test your home's energy efficiency
- Replace old furnaces, air conditioners and water heaters with high performance systems

## 3. CHANGE WHERE YOUR ENERGY COMES FROM

Once you've developed energy-saving habits and made your home more energy efficient, what's next? Consider turning your home into an energy producer instead of just an energy consumer. Solar water heating systems and solar electricity systems use the sun's energy to heat water and power buildings.

Today, rebates, tax credits and other incentives are helping make renewable energy systems more affordable. Learn more at [www.GreenPointRated.com](http://www.GreenPointRated.com).

### **About GreenPoint Rated**

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A better environment from the inside out.

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## **GreenPointers: Kitchen & Bath**

- 1 SAVE ENERGY & WATER**
- 2 HAVE A HEALTHIER HOME**
- 3 WASTE LESS**
- 4 CHOOSE GREEN PRODUCTS**

If you're planning to revamp your kitchen or bathroom, why not make it green? You'll have a beautiful, comfortable home that's healthier for you and the planet, and rewards you with savings on utilities & maintenance.

Use this list of green strategies to help keep your next remodeling project on track.

## 1. SAVE ENERGY & WATER

**To reduce utility bills and fight climate change without sacrificing convenience or comfort, choose:**

- Energy Star qualified appliances
- Low-flow faucets and showerheads and high efficiency toilets
- High quality fluorescent and LED light bulbs
- Properly installed insulation
- Energy-efficient windows

## 2. HAVE A HEALTHIER HOME

**To reduce your household's exposure to toxic chemicals, use:**

- Zero- and low-VOC paints, primers, sealers, adhesives and caulk
- Insulation products with no added formaldehyde
- Kitchen and bathroom ventilation fans that exhaust to the outdoors
- Qualified professionals to conduct carbon monoxide and combustion safety tests

## 3. WASTE LESS

**To save money and keep valuable materials out of the waste stream, focus on:**

- Repairing, refurbishing and reusing what you already have
- Selling or donating building materials, furnishings and other things you no longer need
- Creating built-in storage space for recyclable materials and compostable food scraps

## 4. CHOOSE GREEN PRODUCTS

**To conserve natural resources, choose:**

- Sustainably harvested wood products certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), including cabinets, countertops, trim and flooring
- Recycled content products including recycled glass and ceramic tiles and slabs for countertops, floors and shower surrounds
- Rapidly renewable materials including bamboo, cork and natural linoleum for counters, floors and other surfaces
- Reused products including reclaimed wood for flooring and trim, vintage cabinetry, salvaged stone, reused sinks and more

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## **GreenPointers: Maintenance**

- 1 SAVE ENERGY**
- 2 SAVE WATER**
- 3 MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER & HEALTHIER**
- 4 MAKE YOUR HOME LAST**

Having a healthy, comfortable and environmentally sustainable home isn't just about the choices you make when remodeling. Day-to-day maintenance practices can make just as much of a difference.

These simple suggestions can make your home more enjoyable to live in and help preserve its value.

## 1. SAVE ENERGY

**Save money and reduce your home's impact on climate change by:**

- Using a programmable thermostat or diligently adjusting your thermostat manually
- Reducing the amount of time lights are on by using timers, motion sensors or photosensors
- Caulking and weatherstripping to reduce air leakage
- Checking the heating and cooling system's air filter monthly and replacing when dirty
- Having a professional check and maintain your heating and cooling system annually

## 2. SAVE WATER

**Reduce water and sewer bills and protect our future water supply by:**

- Using the dishwasher and clothes washer only when you have a full load, and using the water- and energy-saving settings
- Promptly repairing leaky faucets, toilets and irrigation systems
- Adjusting your landscape watering schedule based on time of year and the plant's water needs

## 3. MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER & HEALTHIER

**Keep indoor air pollutants and toxic chemicals to a minimum by:**

- Using healthier cleaning, pest control and landscaping products
- Removing shoes before entering your home
- Running the kitchen range hood and bathroom fans to exhaust odors, humidity and combustion gases
- Installing smoke and carbon monoxide alarms

## 4. MAKE YOUR HOME LAST

**Extend your home's life by:**

- Cleaning out gutters and downspouts annually
- Checking caulking and flashing around windows, doors and siding every few years
- Addressing leaks and other maintenance issues before potentially expensive damage occurs

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**STUNNING + SUSTAINABLE**

Your remodel can have the best of both worlds

## **GreenPointers: Major Remodeling**

- 1 REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE**
- 2 DESIGN FOR PASSIVE SOLAR HEATING & COOLING**
- 3 PINPOINT COMFORT & EFFICIENCY PROBLEMS**
- 4 CHOOSE GREEN PRODUCTS**

Embarking on a major home remodeling project can be a rewarding experience. But before jumping into construction, take time to explore green alternatives. The choices you make now can help you save money, increase comfort, make your home healthier, and save energy and water.

Consider these green building strategies as you plan your remodeling project.

# 1. REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE

**Strategies that save money and conserve natural resources include:**

- Deconstructing instead of demolishing areas of the home that will be remodeled
- Reusing, selling or donating salvageable materials
- Recycling construction waste that's not reusable
- Using advanced framing techniques that require less lumber

# 2. DESIGN FOR PASSIVE SOLAR HEATING & COOLING

**To keep your home comfortable with less energy, use passive design strategies such as:**

- Maximizing south-facing orientation of windows in main living spaces
- Using building materials with high thermal mass, such as concrete, stone or ceramic tile floors, to capture and store the sun's heat during the day
- Using overhangs, awnings, trellises or shade trees to keep the summer sun off windows
- Reducing solar heat gain by using light exterior paint colors and "cool roof" materials

# 3. PINPOINT COMFORT & EFFICIENCY PROBLEMS

**Identify opportunities for improving comfort, reducing energy bills and creating a healthier home by:**

- Having a home performance contractor run diagnostic tests that search for air leaks and moisture problems and gauge the home's overall energy and water efficiency
- Finding out about rebates and qualified contractors at [www.EnergyUpgradeCA.org](http://www.EnergyUpgradeCA.org)

# 4. CHOOSE GREEN PRODUCTS

**To conserve natural resources, choose:**

- Lumber, hardwood flooring, cabinets and other wood products certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) to be sustainably harvested
- Recycled content products including recycled plastic decking, recycled glass and ceramic tile, and recycled content carpet
- Rapidly renewable materials such as flooring products made of bamboo, cork or natural linoleum
- Reused products such as reclaimed wood flooring and lumber, vintage furniture, and salvaged sinks and other fixtures

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