



Home Decors Go the Greener Way

Home is a place where you come back and relax. Hence, you take care of minute aspects to design and decorate it, and make it a 'home', your home. But have you ever thought how much harm you cause to the environment in maintaining your home? Right from wasted water to spare old rugs to linen cushion covers to plastic table cloths to inefficient home appliances to mismanaged water supply and so on, your interiors and home décor only account for the generation of so much wastage. So, it is high time you went green even for your home décor.

Whenever you design or decorate or renovate your house, a few things remain common for all home decors. Then why not do it the green way this time. Understanding a few elements for a green home décor may help.

Eco-friendly Wall Paints

The wall paints can actually change the face of your otherwise dull home. But a



Energy-efficient Appliances

The advent of technology has led to the invasion of niche home appliances into common Indian homes and eventually they turned into needs from wants and desires. Thus, energy efficiency is a crucial issue addressed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency. Always use energy efficient appliances, and you may check the star rating over them to find the most efficient one.



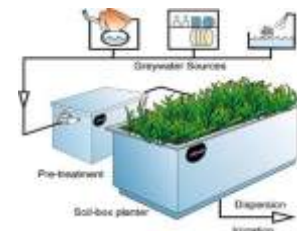
Materials

Furnishings and fixture are key elements to home décor: you always think of creating and managing spaces such that both of an aesthetic appeal and utility are taken care of. Now add one more clause to it: eco-friendly. Choose materials that are eco-friendly and, at the same time, give long-term durability so that you can minimize waste. For your furnishings and fixtures, local wood material and bamboo are good eco-friendly alternatives known to give good durability.

wrong choice could easily give you a long-term exposure to dangerous toxins. To stay away from allergies and chronic diseases, choose paints with little or no VOCs. Another alternative is to use natural interior paint such as clay paints or lime wash. Now, washable natural interior paints are also available.

Water Management

Gone are the days when we used to say that certain things are available for free, and immediately pointed to water: water has indeed become a



scarce resource now. Thus, in case you plan to renovate your house, do not forget to think about water conservation and minimize wastage. Using low flush or dual flush water tanks, sustainable landscaping, proper water control systems for filling tanks, etc. help conserve a lot of water.

Eco-friendly Fabrics

Fabrics are an integral part of your home décor: they're all across your home in the form of bed spreads, cushion covers, carpets, curtains, mats, rugs, table-cloths and so on. To go the green way, simply choose fabrics like organic hemp, bamboo fabric, organic cotton or naturally coloured cotton, which will offer you a variety of colour and texture options. Jute is another fabric which is indeed popular in the eco friendly market. Sofa covers and carpets made of jute are easily available in the Indian markets.



Plants

Whenever you think of home décor, plants are a must. Not just because green is the in-thing to undertake, but because plants give a pleasant and soothing appearance to your house space. Moreover, a few plants like bamboo palm, snake plant, areca palm, spider plant, etc. cleanse the environment.



Sources: timesinterior.com; greenlivingideas.com

