

Your remodel can be
STUNNING + SUSTAINABLE

Your guide to a greener home



GreenPointRATED

Your assurance of a better place to live.



Feel good *in & about* your home.



Whatever your reasons are for remodeling, it makes good sense to make it green. The rewards of green remodeling are real. Green remodeling emphasizes quality construction, beauty, comfort, and health—the health of people as well as the health of the planet.

Green remodeling also emphasizes savings—less money spent on energy and water, fewer building materials winding up in landfills, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and quality construction for a longer lasting home that’s less expensive to maintain.

Visit **GreenPointRated.com** for more tips on how to make your remodel green, healthier, and more comfortable.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Whether you live in an 1890s Victorian, a 1950s ranch house or a 1990s townhome, chances are you'd like to reduce your energy bills. Why not get started today? Energy efficient homes are less drafty, quieter, and often more comfortable.



Reach for the Star.

When shopping for home appliances and other electric products, look for the Energy Star label. Take a little time to comparison shop—it'll pay off when it comes time to pay your utility bills.

Don't Throw Money Out the Window.

Windows can account for as much as 25% of a home's heat loss. If replacing single-pane windows with high performance windows isn't in your budget, consider lower-cost options such as applying solar control window film or installing storm windows.

A Bright Idea. Replace conventional incandescent bulbs with fluorescent and LED lighting to save energy. Fluorescent and LED bulbs also last longer.

See the Light of Day. Natural sunlight can make a room feel more appealing and brighten your mood. But to keep your home from overheating, consider installing awnings on south-facing windows.

Weather-Proof your Home. Upgrade insulation and seal air leaks to reduce your energy bills, and make your home quieter and more comfortable.

Replace Old Systems. It costs about \$1,000 a year to heat and cool a typical home. If you have a heating system or air conditioner that's over 15 years old, it might be time for a replacement.

Don't Let Money Go Down the Drain. 25% of your energy bill goes to heating water. If you're watching gallons go down the drain while you wait for hot water, consider a high efficiency gas-fired water heater, or take advantage of the sun's free energy with a solar hot water system.



KITCHEN, BATH & LAUNDRY

Kitchens and bathrooms undergo the most frequent remodeling. And for good reason—these rooms are subject to a lot of wear and tear.

In older homes, outdated appliances and failing plumbing systems can drive up energy and water bills. Poor ventilation in kitchens, bathrooms and laundry rooms can make homes uncomfortable and unhealthy.

By following green remodeling practices, you can have a beautiful, comfortable home that's healthier for people and the planet.



Invest in Efficient Appliances. Energy- and water-efficient appliances save you money by reducing your energy and water bills. Look for the Energy Star label on refrigerators, dishwashers, clothes washers, and other major appliances.

Save Water. Older faucets, toilets, and showerheads can waste a lot of water. Low-flow faucets and showerheads can cut water usage by as much as 40%.

Repair, Refurbish, or Repurpose. Instead of buying new cabinets, replace broken hinges and drawers, and paint or refinish to make them look as good as new. You'll save money and spare the landfill. If you can't repurpose, consider selling or donating.

Choose Sustainable Materials. When shopping for new countertops, flooring, and cabinets, seek out products made from sustainably harvested wood, recycled content and other environmentally friendly materials.

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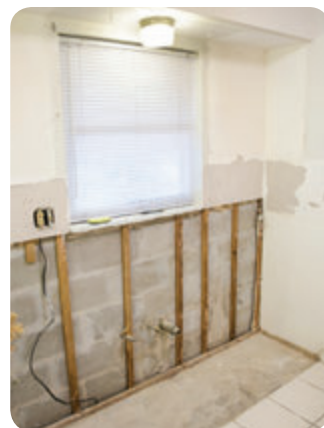
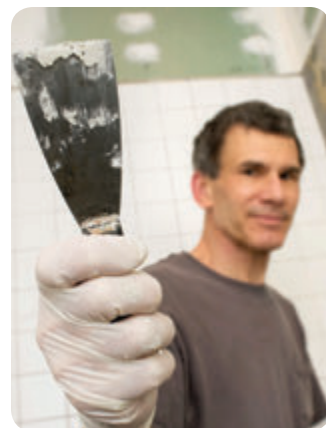
Breathe Easy. Have you ever walked into a freshly painted room and noticed a strong smell? That odor is caused by volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and can cause adverse health affects. Use low- or no-VOC products instead, and keep your home healthier.

Built to Last. Use durable materials when replacing and refurbishing cabinetry. Durable materials require less maintenance and replacement, which reduces waste and long-term costs. For the greatest durability, choose cabinets that use solid wood.

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MAJOR REMODELING + ADDITIONS

Adding a second story or a master suite can be expensive but ultimately rewarding. **To help keep costs in check, save natural resources, and ensure a healthier home, make sure to follow green design and construction practices from the very start.**



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Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. Design a project that reuses existing materials or uses salvaged materials. Recycle your construction and demolition debris. For new materials, choose those that have a high recycled content.

Build for Every Season. Consider the orientation of the addition at the start of any project. South-facing walls and windows receive the most sunlight. Outdoors, find ways to shade the windows with overhangs or trellises. Indoors, use tiles or other cool materials to reduce the impact of the hot summer sun.

Put Safety First. Before starting a remodeling project, consider hazardous materials that may be present, such as asbestos, lead-based paint, or mold. Not sure? Consult a hazardous materials expert.

Protect Your Natural Assets. Landscape features keep the home cooler in the summer, preserve nature, and add value to the property. Through careful planning and construction practices, topsoil, trees and other plants can be preserved during remodeling work.

Pinpoint Comfort and Efficiency Problems. Before you start any major remodeling project, have a home performance contractor run diagnostic tests to gauge your home's overall energy efficiency. This can help you identify opportunities for improving comfort, reducing energy bills, and creating a healthier home.

Get Paid to Green Your Home. Check your local utility or water district. They often offer rebates for appliances, fixtures, audits and upgrades.



Choose Green Products. When evaluating products and processes to use in your remodeling project, here are some important questions to ask yourself and the building professionals you are working with:

- Will this product help me save energy or water?
- Will it offgas harmful chemicals?
- Is it durable?
- Is it made from recycled materials?
- Is it manufactured in an environmentally friendly way?
- Is it made locally?

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CASE STUDY 1

A Green Approach to Traditional Design

*When Maryam Mohit and Erik Blachford bought a three-story Edwardian house on the edge of San Francisco's Presidio in late 2007, they knew it would have to be extensively renovated before they could move in. **From the start, the couple was committed to bringing environmental awareness to their remodeling decisions.***



FEATURES:

Indoor air quality. Mohit specified that low-VOC paints be used throughout the home.

Ventilation. In the bathrooms, exhaust fans with timers automatically remove moisture and provide ventilation.

Resource conservation. When the builders removed a deck to make way for the addition, they stacked the deck boards and reused them when rebuilding the third-floor deck.

Water conservation. To reduce water use, Mohit chose a water-efficient dishwasher and clothes washer, and dual-flush toilets. An on-demand recirculation control pump reduces time spent waiting for hot water at the faucets.



CASE STUDY 2

Revamping an Older Tract House

*A homeowner who also happens to be an architect, contractor, and Certified Green Building Professional, Ian MacLeod tackled his family's bungalow, transforming the cramped and dated floor plan into a spacious, energy-efficient and modern home. **Remodeling gave MacLeod an opportunity to install green features from top to bottom.** Ultimately, he decided to rebuild most of the home's structure and to replace all of its systems, equipment, and finishes with energy-efficient and green options.*

FEATURES:

Added Second Story. Rather than building a larger home on an empty lot, expanding an existing home for a growing family saves resources.

Solar Hot Water & Photovoltaic System. Using the power of the sun to heat water and generate electricity saves big bucks on their energy bill.

High Efficiency Furnace. A modern furnace is one of the best ways to save on energy bills. Older furnaces burn hard-earned cash.

Passive Design Strategies. A well-designed home retains heat on cold days, and stays cool on hot days.

Energy Recovery Ventilation System. A well-ventilated home is critical to maintaining healthy air quality. An energy recovery ventilation system ensures that little heat is lost in the process.

How do you know if your remodel is truly green?

Make sure it's **GreenPoint Rated**.

A remodel can be a daunting process, especially if you want to make sure it's done in an environmentally friendly way. GreenPoint Rated provides you with resources and professionals that can help you keep track of all the details so that you can simply enjoy your healthy, green home.



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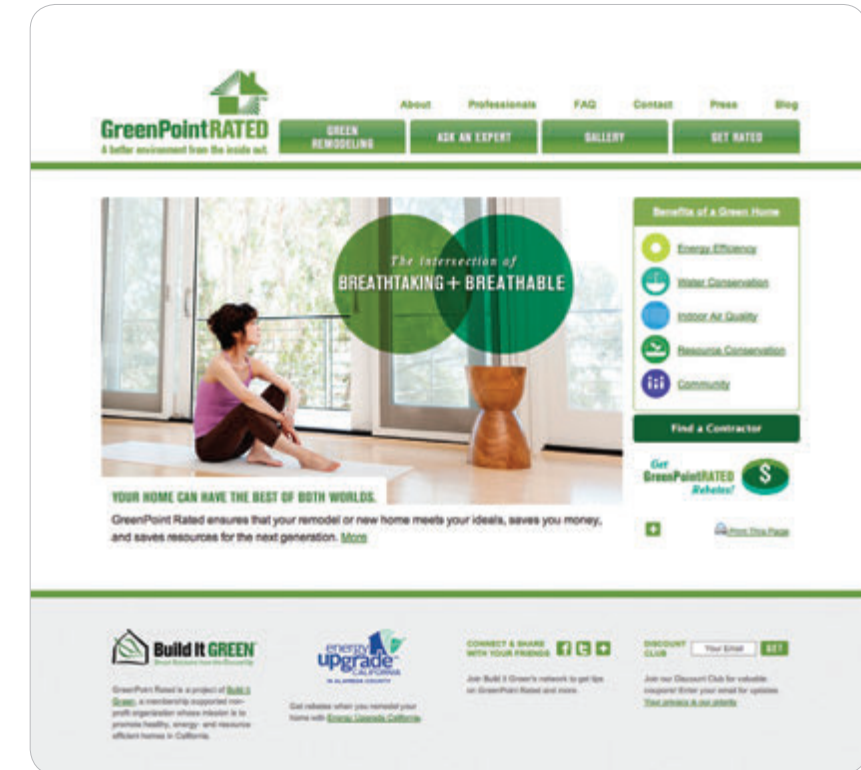
A good place to start is with a **Green Point Advisor**. Even before you decide on the scope of your remodel, an Advisor can help you prioritize your home improvements and ensure that any work is done to proven green standards. Every step of the way, the GreenPoint Advisor can advise you and your contractor on making the most of your green remodeling project.

Also, consider hiring a **GreenPoint Rater** so you can get the GreenPoint Rated label. Green labeled homes often sell for more money and in less time than other homes. The label is also your assurance that your home has been evaluated by a certified GreenPoint Rater to be better for you and the environment.

GreenPointRated.com

has everything you need for a healthier, more efficient, and beautiful home, including:

- Green remodeling tips and resources
- Case studies, expert advice, and green building training
- A directory of GreenPoint Advisors, Raters, and Certified Green Building Professionals who can assist you with greening your remodel project



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About GreenPoint Rated

Recognized as the mark of quality for green homes, the **GreenPoint Rated** label verifies that a home was built or remodeled according to proven environmental standards. Look for the GreenPoint Rated label—your assurance of a better place to live. Find out more at **GreenPointRated.com**



To learn more, go to
GreenPointRated.com



GreenPointRATED

Your assurance of a better place to live.



Build It GREEN™
Smart Solutions from the Ground Up

GREENPOINT RATED IS A PROGRAM OF BUILD IT GREEN.