

6 Affordable Upgrades That Boost Home Efficiency



Upgrade Type	Features and Benefits	Annual Savings	Payback Period
Smart Thermostats and Temperature Control	Adapts to user preferences and schedules, trims heating and cooling costs by 10-15%, provides detailed energy insights, and custom saving tips.	\$140-\$150, with up to 23% savings on HVAC costs.	Typically a few months to a year.
LED Lighting Solutions	Uses up to 90% less energy, lasts 15-25 times longer, includes smart features like motion detection and scheduled controls.	Around \$225 annually with basic upgrades.	6-12 months.
Water Conservation Fixtures	Low-flow showerheads, dual-flush toilets, and faucet aerators significantly reduce water consumption and utility costs; dual-flush toilets use only 1.1-1.6 gallons per flush compared to older models.	Up to \$300 annually, with households cutting water bills by 25-30%.	Varies based on installation scope.
Improved Insulation Solutions	Insulation upgrades like blow-in attic insulation, weather stripping, door sweeps, and outlet gaskets prevent energy loss, enhancing heating and cooling efficiency.	15-20% savings on heating and cooling costs, with older homes reaching 25% or more.	Depends on the scale, typically 2-5 years for larger upgrades.
Window Treatments and Coverings	Energy-efficient coverings such as cellular shades, thermal curtains, and solar films reduce heat loss, block UV rays, and lower cooling costs in summer.	10-15% savings on heating and cooling costs, plus furniture and floor protection from UV rays.	Varies based on investment.
Advanced Power Strips and Energy Monitors	Smart power strips cut phantom power use, while energy monitors track real-time usage, identify high-energy devices, and reduce waste.	\$100 or more annually per entertainment center or office setup, with 5-15% overall savings on electric bills.	Usually 3-6 months.