



## Money Saving Tips for New Homeowners!



Owning a home is exciting—and with a few smart moves, you can save hundreds or thousands each year! Use these practical tips to reduce monthly costs, avoid surprises, and build long-term value!

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### Utilities & Energy Savings

- **Get an energy audit** to identify insulation or efficiency upgrades.
  - **Install a smart thermostat** to reduce heating and cooling costs.
  - **Seal drafts** around windows and doors with weatherstripping.
  - **Switch to LED bulbs** throughout the home.
  - **Run appliances during off-peak hours** if your utility offers variable rates.
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### Maintenance = Prevention

- **Create a seasonal maintenance checklist** (HVAC, gutters, filters).
  - **Change HVAC filters regularly** to improve efficiency and extend system life.
  - **Fix small issues early** to avoid costly repairs later.
  - **Know where your main water shut-off is**—it can save thousands in an emergency!
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### Mortgage & Insurance Tips

- **Review your escrow and payment annually** for accuracy.
- **Shop homeowners insurance every few years** for better rates.
- **Bundle insurance policies** (home + auto) for discounts.

- **Pay extra toward principal when possible**—even small amounts add up.
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### Taxes & Records

- **Understand your property tax bill** and appeal if assessed incorrectly.
  - **Keep receipts** for home improvements—they may help at resale.
  - **Check for tax credits or rebates** on energy-efficient upgrades.
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### Smart Purchasing Habits

- **Wait before making big furniture purchases**—live in the space first.
  - **Buy quality for major systems**, budget options for décor.
  - **Use local contractors** recommended by professionals you trust.
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### DIY vs. Pro Help

- **Learn basic DIY skills** (caulking, painting, minor repairs).
  - **Hire licensed professionals** for electrical, plumbing, and structural work.
  - **Get multiple quotes** for larger projects.
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### Long-Term Value Moves

- **Focus on improvements with strong ROI** (paint, landscaping, lighting).
  - **Maintain curb appeal year-round.**
  - **Stay informed about your local market** to time future moves wisely.
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