

THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT

Innovative software tools to help you decorate, organize and maintain your home

By Tanja Kern

IN TODAY'S WORLD, there truly is a software application for everything—and home design and maintenance are no exceptions.

Want to organize your remodeling project? Need to figure out if your art is hanging level? Wondering if that table you've been eyeing will fit in your dining space?

Your smartphone can provide you access to a handy app for just about every task on your to-do list.

We've rounded up 14 of the best apps that can help you become the most efficient and organized homeowner on your block.

1 IHANDY CARPENTER

The attractive app puts five necessary do-it-yourself tools right on your phone: plumb bob, surface level, bubble level, steel protractor, and a steel ruler. This app should be in every homeowner's pocket. iOS: \$2.99. Android: \$2.69. [ihandysoft.com](#)

2 ABOUT MY HOME

Log everything about your home—from makes and models of appliances and room dimensions to paint types and colors to maintenance schedules. A chore list reminds you when you should do things, such as replace filters and check smoke alarms. A PDF export function also makes it easy to download photos and inventories for insurance. iOS: \$2.99. [Accordhk.com](#)

3 FLIPP

Keep track of all your favorite weekly store flyers in this handy app, which also has access to coupon books.

You can even mark the items you're interested in to save for later. Flipp's shopping list will help you plan ahead by finding what's on sale and stay organized in-store. Free. [App.flipp.com](#)

4 IKEA PLACE

This augmented reality app lets you virtually place IKEA products in your space. The app includes 3D and true-



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to-scale models for everything from sofas to console tables. It also lets you share your place with social apps and lets you order products through the IKEA store. Free. [Ikea.com](#)

5 'MY GARDEN ANSWERS' PLANT ID

Wondering about the name of a flower or plant? My Garden Answers identifies more than 20,000 species. Snap a photo of the plant, click submit, and instantly get the accurate identity of the plant with detailed information. A helpful keyword search also answers more than 200,000 commonly asked plant questions. Free. [Gardenanswers.com](#)

6 BUILDSHOP

This free building and remodeling app allows homeowners to plan, budget, find, and connect with local building professionals. Once the work begins, the tool can help to share ideas, make to-do lists, organize uploaded photos, and monitor spending. While

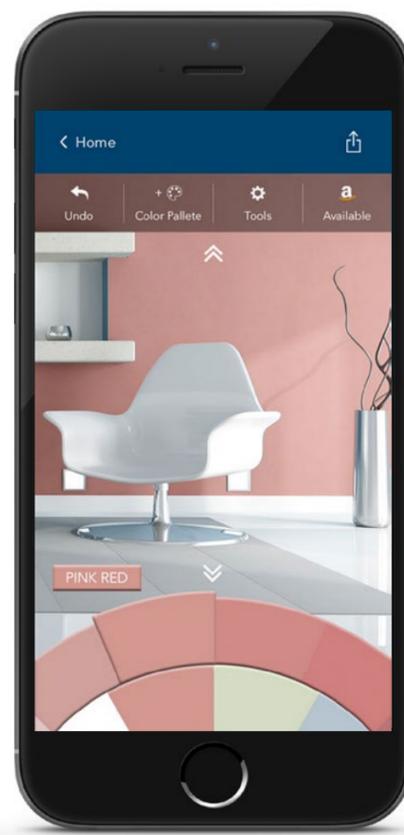
the homeowner app is free, there's a pro version for \$1.66 per day that will help professionals organize their company projects. [Buildshop.com](#)

7 PRESTIGE COLORPIC

See how more than 2,400 colors of paint will look on your walls in real time. Take a picture of your room and drop the



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color onto the wall to get a near-perfect idea of what different colors will look like. Users can also share their creations directly through the app to social media channels to get feedback from friends. Free. [Prestigepaints.com/colorpic](#)

8 PHOTO MEASURES

If a picture is worth a thousand words, this savvy app will cut down the time it takes to take photos and jot down room measurements for your remodeling and design projects. Simply take a photo and measure your space, and the app lets you directly draw measurements and comments right on the image. iOS: \$6.99 / Android: \$4.99. [Bigbluepixel.com/photo-measures](#)

9 CHOREMONSTER

For many families, getting kids to do their chores is a sore spot, but this web and mobile app makes it fun. Parents log on to assign chores, and rewards to their kids. Those items are instantly updated in the kids' ChoreMonster app. When kids sign in, they'll see all of the chores they need to do and how many points they'll receive for completing them. Collected points can be redeemed for virtual rewards through the app, or

with rewards parents set up. Designed for ages 4-12. Free. [Choremonster.com](#)

10 VIEW IN MY ROOM 3D

This app by Houzz, the online community for home renovation and design, enables shoppers to virtually place half a million home products, including furniture, décor, and remodeling items, in their homes true to scale. When the camera is held up to display the room, the selected product will appear in 3D in the screen, allowing you to best position and angle to see how the product would look before you buy it. Free. [Houzz.com](#)

11 HOMEADVISOR

With HomeAdvisor's on-demand platform, homeowners can find and vet local, prescreened home service professionals; view average home project costs using True Cost Guide; and book appointments. Free. [Homeadvisor.com](#)

12 HANDY

Need a trusted professional to perform a household task? Handy connects individuals looking for a pro to do standard home improvement projects, including cleaning, furniture assembly, handyman services, painting, and plumbing repairs. The app touts a 60-second booking process, secure payment, and money-back guarantee. Free. [Handy.com](#)

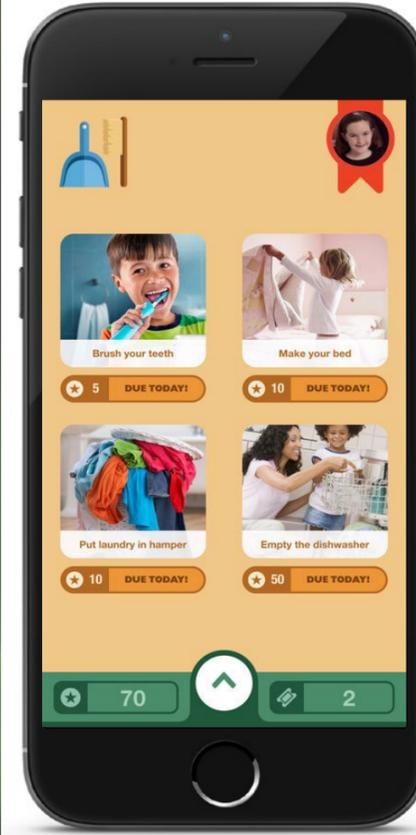
13 MARK ON CALL

Created by interior designer Mark Lewison, this app lets you create a professional-style floor plan on a grid, on which you can arrange your furniture and decorations to scale. You can also take pictures of patterns and finishes and add them to your plan. iOS: \$2.99. [Markoncall.com](#)

14 ADOBE COLOR CC

Some people have a talent for coordinating colors. For the rest of us, this app creates palettes from anything you point your smartphone camera at and snap. Your color combinations are automatically saved to Creative Cloud Libraries for access in desktop and mobile apps. Free. [Color.adobe.com](#)

House exterior photo: James Fanucchi



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