

# Decorator's Notebook



## Eliminate The Do-It-Yourself Blues This Winter

(NAPSA)—While the winter forecast may put a damper on outdoor fix-ups, Northern winds and cold temperatures are no reason to put your DIY talents on the workshop shelf. In fact, some home maintenance projects are best suited for cooler weather. For instance, according to the DIY Network, winter is actually the best time to install new floors because humidity levels are at their lowest.

“Installing a new floor is a relatively quick and inexpensive way to refresh a living space, especially during the winter months when your home is occupied with lots of people and pets,” says Don Cybalski, director of design for Pergo, LLC, the inventor and leading brand of laminate flooring. “With laminate flooring, you can easily complete the job over a winter weekend for a fraction of the cost of real wood.”

Compared with solid wood, top-grade laminates are available at a much more reasonable price. With their simple glueless click installation, most laminate floors can be easily installed over existing flooring without requiring professional assistance.

### Stand Up To Old Man Winter

Another benefit of laminate flooring is its superior durability. Unlike real wood, laminates can stand up to the most extreme wear and tear from daily foot traffic. Even the toughest elements brought indoors—such as mud, snow and rain tracked in by little feet and paws—are no match for this tough flooring selection. Laminates won't wear through, stain or fade over time, no matter how many houseguests you host over the years, and they are incredibly easy to maintain. You can clean them with just a damp mop and



**You can have a new home at the old address for a lot less with a new laminate floor.**

they never need waxing, polishing or refinishing.

### Create Cozy Interiors

Still, when it comes to finding the right new floor for your home, it's all about the look. Many laminates today simulate natural wood grains and replicate the feel of hardwood. In fact, they may be indistinguishable from their wood counterparts.

“Today's laminate decors can add a rich, sophisticated sense of style to any room in a house,” Cybalski explains. “Consumers can choose from traditional oak, maple and cherry finishes—or even achieve exotic-wood looks like teak, merbau and bamboo.”

However, Cybalski emphasizes that all laminates are not created equal. Look closely at the wood-grain design and run your hand across the surface to feel the texture. For the most “like-real-wood” offerings, seek out products that feature superior texturing tech-

nologies—like Pergo's AccuWood™ Textures—found on the new Elegant Expressions collection.

### Dashing Through The Home

During the winter months, many households see an increase in foot traffic through the home. Premium laminates, like the new Pergo Commercial collection, are ideal for these busy living spaces. Featuring an extra-thick core for impact and indentation resistance along with TitanX™, a patented multilayered aluminum oxide finish that creates a surface as hard as titanium, ultra-durable Pergo Commercial laminate is strong enough for a restaurant or boutique, but its resilience and beauty also make it a great flooring choice for active family rooms, kitchens and hallways.

So if you find yourself itching to exercise your DIY muscles this season, go ahead, pull out the tool belt and hit the floor.

For more information, visit [www.pergo.com](http://www.pergo.com).