Welcome Home.

The News Reporter is pleased to bring you Spring Home and Garden 2022. Whether you are looking to spruce up your yard, add value to your home with remodeling or replacing windows, or need maintenance tips, there is something here for everyone.

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Simple Basic Vegetable Gardening Tips

By DALTON B. DOCKERY
NC Cooperative Extension Director

As spring is now officially here it is time to think about planting your garden. Many of us are spending more time outside now and after two years with COVID-19 it is a good time to be outside. It is also a good time to devote more energy to being self-reliant by growing some of our food. Gardening can provide not only better nutrition and physical exercise but also mental relief from stress and anxiety. Planning a garden is the first step to consider with starting your vegetable garden. You may already have a site, but if not, focus on a site with a near source of water and full sunlight of course. Well-drained soil is another consideration. Run rows east to west if possible. Plant tall-growing vegetables on the north side of lower-growing crops. If space is limited utilize “Raised-Beds” and plant crops that yield greatest return for your effort such as pole beans, tomatoes, cabbage, root crops, and leafy greens. If possible, have your soil analyzed, which you can get a “soil test kit” at your County Extension Center. When applying, fertilize broadcast and till into soil or apply it in furrows three inches to either side of the rows with crops. Plant seed by covering lightly or pressing down the seed with your finger into the soil from .5”- 1”. Transplants with either peat or soil cups should be planted so that all roots are buried. Both seed and transplants need to be watered after planting. Transplants need temporary shade for 2-3 days after you set them out. Good luck and I wish you all the success in your gardening efforts.

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Plants in Flower
- Southern Magnolia, Golden Chain Tree, Kousa Dogwood, Hybrid Rhododendron, Mountain Laurel, Satsuki Azalea, Scotch Broom, Deutzia, Beauty Bush, Weigela, Gumpo Azalea, Roses, Clematis, Honeysuckle, Dianthus, Sweet William, Candytuft, Bearded Iris, Peony, Coreopsis, Poppy, Lady Slipper and Summer Annuals

Fertilizing
- Fertilize summer flowering plants like rose-of-Sharon this month.
- Do not forget to sidedress or fertilize your vegetable six to eight weeks after germination.

Planting
- Plant gladioli bulbs (corms) this month.
- Plant summer annuals like begonia, geranium, marigold, petunia and zinnia this month.
- The following vegetable plants can be set out this month: eggplant, pepper, tomato and sweet potato.
- The following vegetables can be planted this month: beans, lima beans, cantaloupe, corn, cucumbers, okra, southern peas, pumpkin, squash and watermelon.

Pruning
- Prune your hybrid rhododendron after they finish flowering.
- Prune any hedges that have outgrown their desired shape.
- Begin pinching your chrysanthemums and continue through early July.
- Pick off azalea leaf galls as they form.
- Do NOT cut back spring bulb foliage until it turns yellow and brown.

Spraying
- Spray the following landscape shrubs for the following insect pests: arborvita-beag worm, azalea-lace bug, boxwood-leafminer, euonymus-scale, hemlock and juniper-spruce mites, pyracantha-lace bug and hybrid rhododendron borer.
- Spray iris beds for iris borers.
- Spray the following vegetables if insects are observed: cucumber (cucumber beetle), squash (squash borer and aphids, tomato and eggplant (flea beetle), broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower (worms).
- Weekly sprays on red-tip photinia if leaf spot is observed.
- Implement rose spray program.
- Keep spraying your tree fruits and bunch grapes with a fungicide program.
- Use pesticides sparingly. Spray only when needed.

Lawn Care
- Mow grass to 1 to 2 inches tall. Do not let grass get taller than 21/2 inches. NEVER burn off centipedegrass to remove excessive debris.

Fertilization
- It is best to submit a soil sample to determine nutrient requirements. Note that lime is rarely needed for centipedegrass. DO NOT apply nitrogen (N) before the end of May. Fertilize with 1 pound of N per 1,000 square feet in mid-May for a basic fertilizer program. Yellow appearance may indicate an iron deficiency. Spray iron (ferrous) sulfate (2 ounces in 5 gallons of water per 1,000 square feet) or a chelated iron source to enhance color as needed. Follow label directions. Grass will green up within 24 hours.

Watering
- Actively growing centipedegrass requires about 1 inch of water per week, either from rainfall or supplemental irrigation. Sandy soils often require more frequent watering (1/2 inch of water every third day) if rainfall is insufficient. Proper irrigation helps prevent or reduce problems later in the summer.

Weed Control
- Apply postemergence herbicides in May if you need to control summer annual and perennial broadleaf weeds like knotweed, spurge, and lespedeza. Do not apply postemergence herbicides until three weeks after green-up. Centipedegrass is sensitive to certain herbicides (for example, 2,4-D), so follow label directions and use caution.

Propagation
- Take softwood cuttings of plants like azalea, rhododendron, forsythia, clematis, chrysanthemum and geranium in late May if you have a misting system.

Note: Agriculture Agent Seth Nagy assisted with this publication.
3 Spring Hacks to Prep the Inside of your Home for Warm Weather

With warmer weather on the way, it’s time to deal with the associated household hassles of the season. Here are three hacks that will help you create a healthy, comfortable home during the months ahead:

**Beat the Heat**
Beyond having your HVAC unit serviced and changing your air filter regularly, you can beat the heat at home with a few smart strategies. One change you can make today that will also reduce your carbon footprint is to swap out your heat-emitting incandescent light bulbs for cool LEDs. Likewise, appliances that are not in use but plugged in could be generating unnecessary warmth, so unplug when you can. Finally, use shades and blinds strategically to block out the sun and prevent a greenhouse effect indoors.

**Banish Flying Bugs**
Fruit flies, gnats and flies tend to proliferate indoors in the warmer months. Not only do these creatures come with a serious ick factor, they can harm your houseplants and even put your family’s health at risk by carrying germs from dirty surfaces to clean ones.

A safe and easy way to defend against buzzing invaders is to plug Zevo Bug Traps into outlets around your home, especially in areas where these bugs enter your home and gather, like garages, entryways, covered porches, trash cans, drain pipes and kitchens. Rather than relying on chemical insecticides, they use multi-spectrum light technology that bugs find irresistible. Once attracted, flying insects are trapped in a super-sticky adhesive backing. Each trap cartridge offers continuous defense for up to 45 days or until it’s full. When you’re done with a cartridge, simply throw it in the trash and slide a new one in, without ever having to touch the dead bugs. Pair these traps with Zevo home bug sprays, which are powered by essential oils, for whole home protection. To learn more about defending your home against insects, and for trapping tips, visit zevoinsect.com.

**Master Mold**
Thriving in warm wet environments, mold is something to watch out for at home, especially during spring and summer. Much more than an eyesore, mold is bad for your home’s infrastructure and bad for you. Mold can cause a number of allergic reactions and can sometimes even be toxic. However, you can reduce the risk of mold forming by managing your home’s humidity. Use fans and other ventilation in bathrooms and the kitchen when showering, running the dishwasher and doing other tasks that invite humidity. Test the humidity of various rooms in your home with a hygrometer and use a dehumidifier where needed. According to the EPA, the ideal indoor humidity is between 30 and 50%.

Employing warm weather hacks at home can help you maintain clean, comfortable spaces, all season long.

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**June 4 Whiteville Garden Club tour will benefit outreach projects**

‘Something for everybody’

Guests will hear live music and watch artists at work while they stroll through nine Whiteville gardens Saturday, June 4. Whiteville Garden Club will use proceeds of the tour to give scholarships for Whiteville High School students and carry out other services to the community.

“We’re thinking of adding to the gardens at Angel House,” said club member Brenda Jolly. Plantings at the Lower Cape Fear LifeCare facility could use a few “colorful additions,” she said.

The June 4 event begins at 10 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m., rain or shine, and Jolly encouraged participants to wear “good walking shoes” as the gardens range from small lots to 5-plus acres.

Guests will see “a lot of creativity, ingenuity and imagination” in garden styles, some with traditional plants and others with “very unusual” specimens, Jolly said. One yard features an aviary and a heated enclosure for a pet wallaby, she said. “There will be something for everybody.”

Local musicians will sing and play some part of the day at all sites; open-air artists will be at work throughout the day. “We have some really talented people” scheduled to enhance the tour, Jolly said. Some of the artists will have works for sale. Two published authors will be on hand. Jolly said some of the homeowers would provide refreshments.

Admission is $20 per person. A guidebook describing the gardens’ varied features serves as the admission ticket. To purchase one, people may stop by the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and Tourism or the Country Nursery, or they may buy from any Whiteville Garden Club member.

The tour includes seven private properties (outdoors only), the children’s community garden and healing garden at Columbus Regional Healthcare System and the Reuben Brown House, where a club member’s quilt collection will be on display. Jolly called the exhibit “a good tie-in” with the historic house.

Whiteville High School art and horticulture students will assist with signs and logistics for the tour, Jolly said.

Jolly said she appreciated the “very generous” support of 21 businesses that have purchased ads in the brochure.
5 Ways to Spring Clean Your Routine

Falling short of your goals? In a period of stagnation? It may be time to spring clean your routine. Here are a few tips and ideas for getting more done with greater ease.

1. Spruce up your settings: Do you find some of the push notifications on your phone distracting? Give yourself the gift of fewer beeps and buzzes by spending just a few minutes reviewing and changing the notification settings of your apps.

2. Squeeze in self-care: Taking regular breaks from your work is essential. Not only are these interludes good for your mind and body, they can actually help you be more creative and productive. However, if you’re someone who loses track of time easily when you’re concentrating, you may need a tool to remind you to step away from your workstation. That’s where a watch like those in the G-Shock lineup can be of assistance. Equipped with multi-function alarms, a step tracker and a heart rate monitor, you may just be motivated to use your break to take a brisk walk.

3. Reduce mealtime stress: If weeknight dinners are rushed and chaotic but you don’t want to resort to takeout more than once or twice a week, try subscribing to a meal kit service that delivers all the ingredients and instructions you need to create delicious and wholesome home-cooked meals. The good news is that many such services have ever-changing menus, as well as flexible options for those who are on special diets. These kits can also be a good way for kitchen novices to master basic culinary skills before embarking on more complicated efforts.

4. Stay focused: Everyone is overscheduled these days. Having tech tools handy that keep you task-oriented can help ensure you never miss an important meet-

5. Write it down: On the first of each month, take a few moments to jot down any goals you have for the month ahead, as well as any habits you want to start or stop. Take time to note how you are planning to fulfill your objectives. At the end of the month, review what worked and what didn’t.

Getting out of a rut can be as simple as making a few tweaks to your routine. Lean on tools and strategies designed to help.
After learning to live life more remotely in 2020 and 2021, it’s time to view 2022 as a fresh start.

To help you adopt a new, balanced way of living, FrogTape brand painter’s tape and celebrity interior designer, Taniya Nayak, are sharing five home interior design trends meant to inspire spaces that will welcome guests, while still incorporating the special intimacies that may have been rediscovered from slowing down. Each trend can be utilized for a full home makeover or incorporated into little touches to freshen up a space.

1. Embrace. Embrace everything that is good in your life and create a sense of comfort, warmth and security. Nayak recommends cozy textures and a palette of mel- low coral, subtle orange, soft green and creamy shades of white and brown to achieve this look in spaces like bedrooms or family rooms.

A simple and stylish way to incorporate this into a room is to add a coat of paint to a textured basket for a pop of color. Then, fill it with plenty of plush blankets to complete the cozy look and feel.

2. Rise. Give a fresh perspective to your existing space with the ‘Rise’ trend. Inspired by the morning light peeking through the shades, incorporating this trend into your bedroom or bathroom is bound to invigorate and motivate you. For example, add a coat of green paint to your closet door for a nice pop of color to an area where you start your day.

No matter where you’re looking to add fresh color, you’ll want to achieve clean, sharp paint lines. One of Nayak’s go-to tools is a premium painter’s tape that produces professional-looking results, like FrogTape brand painter’s tape, which is treated with patented PaintBlock Technology, to deliver the sharpest lines possible.

3. Gather. Gathering with friends and family has been long awaited, so set the mood and ambience just the way you imagined it. Inspired by the depth of conversations with loved ones, the ‘Gather’ trend embraces rich, dark tones like navy, teal or forest green.

Incorporate this trend by painting the focal point of a room, like kitchen cabinets or the living room fireplace. Or, add bold, dark details with furniture and artwork. You can keep it subtle by creating custom centerpieces dipped in paint and wrapped in twine.

4. Revive. Revive your home with soothing and vibrant shades of pink, orange and blue to create a balance of motivated yet satisfied. Consider adding a vibrant paint color to old, worn-down details like a front door, nightstand or kitchen table. It might feel out of context, or out of character, but give it a try.

“This trend can be described as carefree, festive and fun,” said Nayak. “Whatever it is that makes you happy…go for it!”

5. Shine. The ‘Shine’ trend is all about letting your true self shine. Implement this trend in any room throughout your home by embracing every color of the rainbow and visually displaying what’s in your heart. Using FrogTape, tape off a custom pattern that is uniquely yours and paint it whatever color you choose.

Visit FrogTape.com/Trends for more trend information and ideas.

Creative and easy to achieve, these rising trends for 2022 provide inspiration to refresh your home’s interior.
One of the best ways to achieve instant curb appeal, according to the experts, is to effectively layer shrubs, plants and flowers in your front yard. Doing so can create a cohesive visual experience that naturally guides visitors to the front door.

Landscape designer Doug Scott describes plant layering in art terms: “Just like in a painting, you need to have a background, a middle ground and a foreground. Each layer serves a purpose, and there’s no more important place for them to be on full display than your home’s entrance.”

To help homeowners understand the purpose of plant layering and identify the best types of plants for each layer, Scott has joined forces with Exmark, a leading manufacturer of commercial mowers and equipment for landscape professionals and serious DIY-ers. Here they break it down for you:

1. **Background:** The background layer should consist of taller evergreen shrubs to ensure that no matter what’s in front of them, you and your visitors will always have something green to look at. This layer provides a cohesive backdrop and a bit of living color in every season.

2. **Middle Ground:** Here’s where to step it down a notch in height and add interesting shapes, colors or stripes that provide contrast against the darker green of the background layer. Herbaceous perennials, like lavender, are a good choice for this purpose.

3. **Foreground:** Finally, the foreground layer should help transition the planting beds to your lawn space or sidewalk, and should therefore be lower than the back two layers. It’s also where you can keep things fresh and get your hands dirty throughout the year by changing out annuals with the seasons. Or, if you want a lower-maintenance entrance, you can choose smaller perennials, evergreens or creeping ground covers. Use the foreground layer as an opportunity to add pops of color at ground level and draw attention to your home’s entrance.

Scott lays out a few other important tips to keep in mind:

- Choose plants consistent with your home’s style. For instance, if you have a craftsman home, you should probably skip tropical plants. Or, if your home is more minimalist, avoid an overabundance of different plants.

- Don’t obstruct views of your front door from the street with plants. Likewise, visitors shouldn’t have to maneuver around plants as they make their way down the sidewalk. Neither is convenient or welcoming, so you’ll either need to keep pruning plants to size, or choose plants that won’t overgrow their space without a ton of pruning.

- To make your entrance “the star” it should be, the plant material in the rest of your front yard shouldn’t be distracting. Rather let it frame the intended view.

Scott offers more plant layering tips in “Making an Entrance,” a recent episode of “Done-In-A-Weekend Projects,” an original series from Exmark. To watch the video, visit Backyard Life, which is part of a unique multimedia destination with a focus on helping homeowners make the most of outdoor spaces. There you can also download additional tips and view other Exmark Original Series videos, including “Dream Yards,” “Living Rural,” “Prime Cuts” and “Done In a Weekend – Extreme Projects.”

Through effective plant layering, you can boost curb appeal and give your home the grand entrance it deserves.
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Is it time to green up your act at home? Here are just a few tweaks you can make to substantially reduce your environmental footprint.

**Make Appliance Upgrades**

Home appliances are improving all the time, with many newer models designed specifically with efficiency in mind. If your home appliances, such as your washer, dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator and HVAC system, are on the older side, it may be time to replace one or more of these items. Over time, you’ll offset the upfront cost with reduced energy bills. Plus, you’ll be helping protect the climate. Look for ENERGY STAR-rated products, which have met strict EPA standards.

**Optimize Heating and Cooling**

North American Technician Excellence (NATE) offers the following energy-saving tips to help you keep your home comfort system running at peak performance:

- **Change your air filters monthly, or as directed by the manufacturer.**
- **Add weatherstripping and caulk around windows and doors to improve your home’s insulation.** Improperly insulated walls, floors, attics, basements and crawlspaces waste energy and can also lead to moisture imbalance.
- **Install a programmable thermostat to help regulate temperatures.**
- **Don’t keep clutter near your HVACR units, and don’t store anything next to them that could impede ventilation.** Likewise, keep vents and returns free of obstructions. Don’t lay carpet over vents, place furniture over or in front of them, or obstruct airflow.
- **Dry air feels cooler than moist air.** A simple humidifier may make your home feel five degrees warmer.
- **Even the most efficient system can suffer if it’s not properly maintained.** For optimum comfort and sustainability, make sure all your HVACR installation, maintenance and other work is performed by a NATE-certified technician. NATE-certified technicians have demonstrated their knowledge of today’s increasingly sophisticated heating and cooling systems by passing a nationally recognized test developed and supported by all segments of the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning industry. Better installation and service means your equipment will run at peak efficiency. Visit natex.org for additional HVACR energy-savings tips and resources, and to find a NATE-certified technician in your area.

**Reduce Food Waste**

American food production uses 10% of the nation’s total energy budget, 50% of its land, and 80% of its freshwater, according to FoodRescue.net. Unfortunately, up to 40% of all food ends up in landfills. Label food items in your pantry and fridge and organize them by date to help ensure you consume food before it spoils. If you see that you’ve prepared too much of a certain item, freeze it. Of course, many foods produce unavoidable scraps. Use them to create stock or compost them. Composting will reduce your home’s contribution to landfills while enriching your garden. Bonus: it’s also a great way to reduce yardwork waste.

**Make an Impact Today**

Want a quick project you can complete in an afternoon? Swap out incandescent lightbulbs for energy efficient LEDs. According to the EPA, residential LEDs -- especially ENERGY STAR-rated products -- use at least 75% less energy, and last up to 25 times longer.

Consider making Earth-friendly changes at home. A few tweaks can reduce your household’s impact on the planet.
Spring Cleaning: Is Your ‘Junk’ Worth a Fortune?

If your family is like most, you have “junk” in your basement, garage or attic, such as sports cards, memorabilia and toys. Before you toss them out during spring cleaning, consider that the prices of sports cards, games and other ephemera are skyrocketing.

How can you determine if your stuff is valuable and, if it is, how can you sell it?

A widely accepted rule for sports cards, memorabilia and toys is that older items are worth more. However, these days even more recent items are also commanding high prices.

“Vintage sports cards from the early periods of a sport are almost always highly collectible, especially of Hall of Famers,” says Al Crisafulli, Auction Director at Love of the Game Auctions, an internet sports and memorabilia auction that helps families sell collectibles. “But don’t assume sports cards or other memorabilia have to be old to be valuable. Modern cards of such stars as Tom Brady, Mike Trout, LeBron James, Michael Jordan, Derek Jeter and others can sell for lots of money.”

He is offering tips to help determine if your belongings are valuable:

**Older Sports Cards**

Cards from the 1960s and earlier are collectible, and those from before the 1940s can be extremely valuable. Big-name Hall of Famers like Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Lou Gehrig, Honus Wagner, Mickey Mantle and others bring high prices.

With old cards from the 1980s and early 1990s, look for tobacco and candy brands, such as Old Judge, Piedmont, Sweet Caporal or American Caramel. Really old Sports memorabilia from the 19th and early 20th Century, such as photographs, postcards, bats, gloves and balls are also collectible.

When opting to sell sports items, consider a specialty auction, such as Love of the Game, which has the expertise to professionally research sports items and maintains lists of bidders specializing in this area, to get top dollar. More information is available at loveofthegameauctions.com.

**Modern Cards**

Prices on recent baseball, basketball and football cards have risen rapidly. The three keys are condition, star power and cards from early in player careers.

Do you have major current stars, like Mike Trout, Patrick Mahomes, Tom Brady and LeBron James? Or do you have greats from the recent past, like Michael Jordan, Kobe Bryant, Magic Johnson, Derek Jeter or Joe Montana?

Check if your cards are denoted as Rookie, Prospect, Draft Pick or other indicators they’re from a player’s first season. And condition is king, as cards that look pack fresh with sharp corners and a well-centered image command highest prices. Additionally, unopened packs and boxes from almost any year can be valuable.

**Memorabilia**

Do you have old advertising posters depicting sports stars or famous entertainment personalities together with food, tobacco or sporting goods brands. Many original signs, store displays and promotional items are collectible, especially those dating from the early 1900s into the 1960s. But low-quality reproductions aren’t. Look for memorabilia spotlighting sports heroes, superheroes, early Walt Disney characters and Star Wars subjects.

So, while you’re spring cleaning that attic, basement or garage, don’t rush to the garbage. Before throwing out old “junk,” determine if it’s valuable!
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What to Look for When Updating Windows and Patio Doors

Your home’s windows and patio doors not only let in sunlight and scenery, they also help protect you from the elements. That’s why it’s important to do your research when you’re updating them. Here’s what to know and what to look for:

**High-Performance Products**
High-performance windows and doors have better energy efficiency, which can help save you money in the long run, make your home healthier and keep it better protected in stormy weather.
Energy-efficient windows help reduce drafts and the transfer of heat, which can mean lower energy bills. ENERGY STAR certified windows and patio doors from Andersen are a good example of this. They’re also durable and reduce expenses associated with maintenance and painting.
Be sure to also seek out products that have “zero-VOC” or “low-VOC” certification. For example, most Andersen products are Indoor Advantage Gold certified for low-VOC emissions. This helps reduce your household’s exposure to volatile organic compounds, which are gases that can lead to eye, nose and throat irritation, headaches and dizziness, and can even cause organ damage over time, according to the EPA.
Finally, if you live in an area prone to hurricanes and storms, look for windows and doors that are certified to perform in high winds and severe coastal conditions.

**Quality Components**
Better quality windows and doors make it less likely that you’ll need to repair or replace them. One way to identify quality is to stick with brands that continually test the durability and strength of all the components of their products.
You can also look into products that use new, low-maintenance materials like Fibrex material, a composite that’s stronger than vinyl and doesn’t rot, fade, pit or corrode.

**Designs That Fit Your Style**
Look for the types of windows and doors that match the look and feel of your home. This means making sure they’re the right color with the right type of glass and that they open the way you want them to.
For example, custom colors can help bring your design vision to life, black interiors help achieve a modern look with contrasting interior paint colors, white interiors help keep spaces light and bright. And if you’re looking to put a patio door in a tight space, go with a gliding patio door option.
Different types of glass are also something to keep in mind, with some glass being better suited for certain climates and conditions. Understanding terms like dual pane windows, low emissivity (Low-E) coating, decorative and hurricane-resistant can also help you make the right choices.
With so many options, it’s often a good idea to seek the advice of a certified contractor. They can help capture your vision and will work with you to find the right products for your home.

**An Experienced Installer**
A window is only as good as its installation. In fact, many windows fail due to improper installation. Help protect the investment you’ve made in your home by hiring a certified contractor or full-service replacement company like Renewal by Andersen. Certified contractors are a safe bet to make sure your windows and doors are installed properly, and Andersen products installed by Andersen Certified Contractors come with a 2-year limited installation warranty.
Keeping all these points in mind will help you select windows and patio doors that best fit your home, and can save you money in the long run.

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How to Choose the Best Wallpaper Design for Any Space

Thinking about using wallpaper to transform your walls from drab to fab? You’re in good company. Wallpaper’s popularity is on the rise in both residential and commercial spaces and gaining an edge over paint.

Why? Experts believe this trend reflects a growing recognition of wallpaper’s unique benefits. It’s cost-effective, protects the wall surface from accidental marks and scratches, and offers personalized self-expression at a reasonable price.

“We experienced consistent month-over-month wallpaper sales increases throughout 2021. We attribute this to consumers’ growing desire to customize their spaces with designs that reflect their personal style and aesthetic preferences, while retaining the option to change things up as frequently as desired with removable wallpaper,” says Michael Jones, general manager, Spoonflower, a leading custom, print-on-demand wallpaper and home decor digital marketplace.

According to Jones, there are a few things to keep in mind when choosing the right wallpaper for your space. Here, he offers a few insights to help you get started:

**Type:** First, determine how long you’d like the wallpaper to remain on your walls. Some types of wallpaper are more suitable for long-term use and others are best for those who wish to change their designs with the seasons or on a whim. For this reason, Spoonflower offers three types of wallpaper:
1. Prepasted Removable Smooth: Long-lasting, but fully removable (and recyclable), this option is great for homes, rental spaces, accent walls or temporary art installations.
2. Peel and Stick Removable Woven: Removable and repositionable, this option won’t leave a residue behind. Whether you’re renting or you love to stay on-trend, temporary wallpaper is a great alternative to traditional wall coverings.
3. Traditional Pebble: This traditional wallpaper has a subtle leathered texture, matte finish, is paste-activated and is highly durable. Not only is it PVC-free, it is also moisture resistant.

**Design:** To take the guesswork out of wallpaper design selection, consider heading to a wallpaper digital marketplace. In the case of Spoonflower, which features over 1 million designs, the biggest challenge you’ll face is the enormity of selection. However, you can easily narrow down your choices by searching for designs based on category keywords, color or by styles, such as Mid-Century Modern, Cottagecore or Paisley. For those with a specific design already envisioned, the site even allows you to upload your own design and have it custom printed on wallpaper.

Before committing, consider ordering two or three swatches so you can compare them in your own space and assess the best fit. This can help ensure your final design selection is completely tailored to your preferences. To learn more and to get the process started, visit spoonflower.com.

Thanks to new wallpaper technology and an ever-growing library of designs available, making a customized impact on the look and feel of your spaces has never been easier.
Simplifying Household Shopping this Spring

Birds are chirping and the days are getting longer, which means it’s time to stock up on everything your household needs to usher in the new season. From spring cleaning supplies to allergy medications, it’s important to get the best products at the best price.

However, in an ever-changing consumer landscape where new products are introduced to the market all the time, reading countless product reviews can be exhausting. For an easy guide with reliable insights, check out Product of the Year USA, the largest consumer-voted award for product innovation.

Each year, product winners are determined by a national study conducted by Kantar, a global leader in consumer research, in which 40,000 American consumers weigh in on the top products. This means that items sporting a red seal are the tried-and-true favorites of other shoppers.

“We’re proud to be able to provide shoppers and their families with trusted guidance in finding innovative products that reflect the latest trends and solutions they’re looking for,” says Mike Nolan, global CEO of Product of the Year management.

An annual benchmark that forecasts the trends in store for the year ahead, this year’s winners reflect the things that everyday consumers value most. As you stock up on spring household essentials, consider these 20 winners of the 2022 Product of the Year Awards:

- All-Purpose Disinfectant | OxiClean Daily Clean Multi-Purpose Disinfectant – Church & Dwight
- Bathroom Cleaning | 9 Elements Bathroom Cleaner – P&G
- CBD Gummies | Charlotte’s Web CBD Gummies – Charlotte’s Web, Inc.
- CBD Ingestible | cbdMD Drink Mix – cbdMD
- CBD Pet | CBD Daily Chews by D Oh Gee – D Oh Gee
- Cold & Allergy | Allegra Hives – SANOFI US
- Disinfecting Wipes | LYSOL Biodegradable Disinfecting Wipes - Fresh Citrus 70ct – Reckitt
- Dog Care | CESAR WHOLESOME BOWLS – Mars
- First Aid | Nexcare Duo Bandages – 3M
- Hair Styling | göt2b Glued 2-in-1 Spray Wax – Henkel
- Laundry | Persil Active Scent Boost – Henkel
- Oral Care | LISTERINE SMART RINSE Kids Anticavity Mouthwash, Bubble Blast, 500 mL – Johnson & Johnson Consumer Health
- Pain Relief | TYLENOL Dissolve Packs – Johnson & Johnson Consumer Health
- Personal Cleansing | Dial Clean + Gentle Body Wash – Henkel
- Pest Control | STEM – SC Johnson
- Probiotics | Bio-K+ Extra Cognition with Cereboost – Bio-K+ International Inc.
- Skin Care | Gold Bond Crepe Corrector Age Defense Lotion – Sanofi Consumer Healthcare
- Sustainable Home Essentials | Dial Concentrated Refills – Henkel
- Vitamins | Nature’s Bounty Jelly Bean Vitamins – Nestle Health Science U.S.
- Wellness | Live Better Apple Cider Vinegar Gummies – CVS

For additional information about the 2022 Product of the Year winners, visit productoftheyearusa.com.

Whether you’re shopping online or in a brick-and-mortar store, you can gain some peace of mind around your purchasing decisions by leaning on the wisdom of thousands of other shoppers.
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