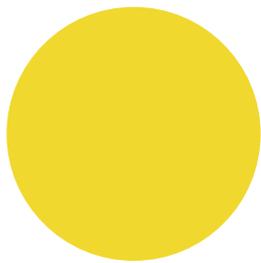
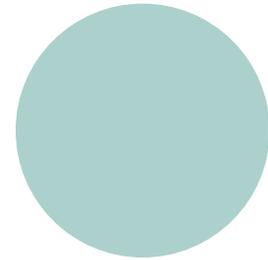
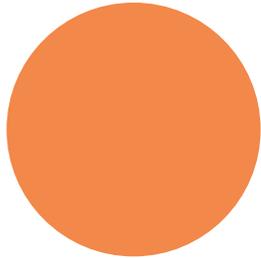


# IMPROVEMENT CENTER



## Guide to Good Deals on Flooring

# Guide to Good Deals on Flooring

For most types of flooring, there's usually a sale to be found somewhere. This may not apply to exotic materials like leather and glass, but if you are a savvy shopper and not in a big hurry, you can find a good deal on many flooring materials with a little searching.

## Be Flexible

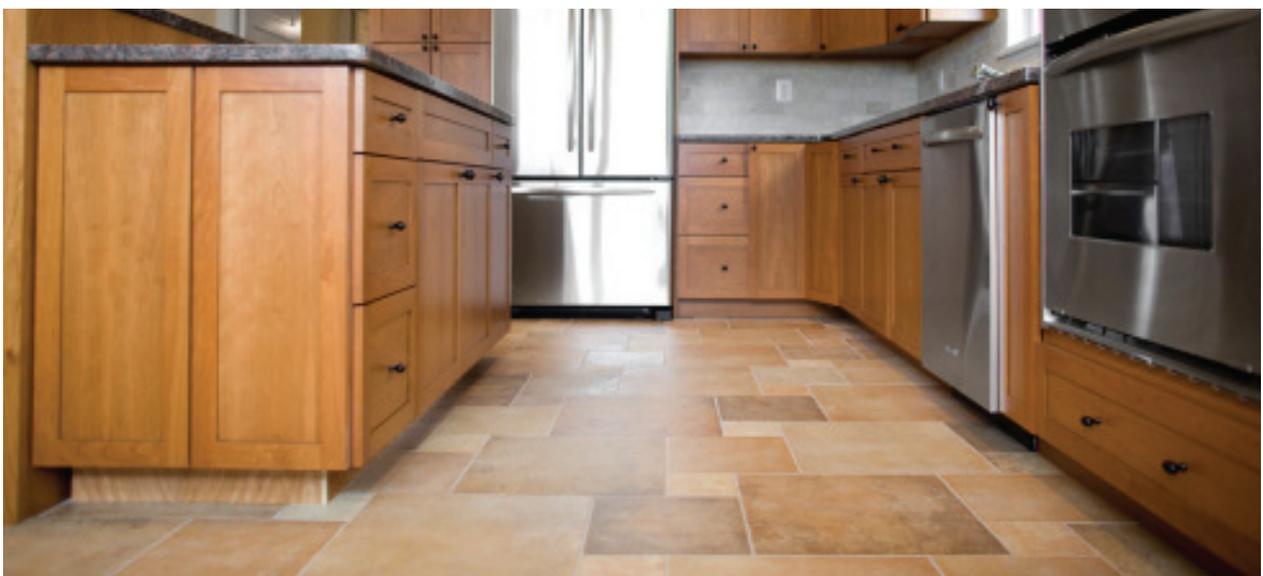
If you want to save the most money on flooring, flexibility is the name of the game. If you lock yourself into a certain manufacturer, material, or color, you reduce your potential for savings. If getting the best deal is important, set a range of parameters instead: the materials you can live with, the manufacturers you trust, and the color choices that could work.

Be willing to wait for the best deal. If you don't have a firm date that your new floor has to be in, then you're in the driver's seat. Here are some ways you can maximize your savings:

- Know the average prices for the flooring materials you are interested in so you have a benchmark for determining a good deal.

- Learn the seasonal patterns of retailers so you know when stores are likely to place inventory on sale.
- Visit home improvement stores often to check for sales, and watch their ads, too.
- Search the Internet for discount websites, overstock liquidators, and wholesale outlets.
- Check sites such as eBay and Craigslist, which may feature great deals from private sellers.
- Consider reclaimed or recycled flooring.
- Work with a flooring contractor who can let you know when material pricing is favorable.

When you find the flooring that meets your needs at the right price, it's time to buy. But before you commit to it, make sure you are getting what you expect. If you are dealing with a company you don't know, always check with the Better Business Bureau and search the Internet for complaints from other consumers. Also remember that if you are ordering your flooring online and the supplier is not local, you may have to add shipping costs to the price.





## Save on Installation

Like any other business, flooring contractors have busy times and slow times. If you just got a great deal on material but your local contractors are in the middle of their busy season, consider finding someplace to store your flooring until your contractor has a window where business is less hectic.

It can be frustrating to stare at the dingy floor in your living room or kitchen as you wait to save money on your project. If you just can't stand it any longer, then by all means replace it now. But if saving money is your primary goal, exercising a little patience may be the way to go.

