

Plastics in the Modern Home

Plastics play a critical role in making your space a home – both inside and out. From the [kitchen](#) to the [garden](#), and [every room](#) in between, durable plastics are the affordable, energy efficient choice for consumers around the globe, enhancing experiences and memories in your home every day.

For every [40 British Thermal Units \(BTU\) of energy](#) saved by using **plastic insulation**, only one BTU of energy is consumed to produce the material.

Affordable plastic film **window coverings** insulate from cold and [create a more temperate environment](#) by reducing temperature swings, drafts and reliance on air conditioning or heating units.

Latex paint is durable, easy to use and requires fewer coats for a faster, less product-intensive paint job – made from various [plastic polymers](#), it also lasts longer and requires fewer touch ups.

Synthetic Carpets are made from nylon, polyester and polypropylene, are moisture-and-stain resistant and [make up 97%](#) of the carpet market.

Affordable **plastic polyvinylchloride (PVC) pipes** [improve energy efficiency](#) and reduce wastewater. With innovations like the PEX piping water system, PVC even reduces wait times for warm water compared to ordinary pipes.

Memory Foam Mattresses and position-specific pillows form to body contours, and evenly distribute body weight to relieve pressure, thanks to [polyurethane foam](#).

FACT:

Insulating all houses in the U.S. with plastic foam could save **\$2.58 billion** per year in [energy costs](#).

Durable and hygienic **mattress protectors** are frequently made with [synthetic fibers](#) including polyester and spandex and can include polyurethane coatings to protect us from spills or insects.

Cooktop Coatings and **non-stick cookware** are made from [polytetrafluoroethylene \(PTFE\)](#) which provide even heat distribution qualities.

Plastic packaging and food-safe containers increase the [shelf life](#) of produce, keeping it fresher, longer, and safer to eat. Longer sell-by dates reduce food waste and the emissions they produce.

Plastic flooring alternatives, including luxury vinyl tiles (LVT) and plastic composite laminates, mimic the modern, durable look of wood or marble at a [more affordable](#) cost and with easier installation, making it a great choice for DIY home improvement.

FACT:

Preserving fresh food with plastic decreases food waste, [saves consumers money](#) by reducing repeat purchases, and ensures that production inputs of food (including water, fertilizer and transport emissions) are not wasted.

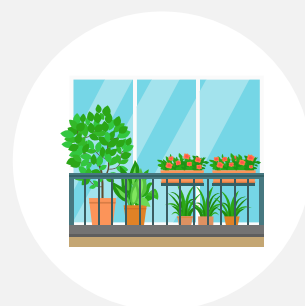
Even outdoors, affordable plastics make beautiful spaces accessible and safer for everyone.



Heavy steel wheelbarrows can **cost over \$100 more** than similar, lighter and safer rust-proof wheelbarrows.



Plastic trowels cost [half as much](#) as steel trowels, and are **safer for children learning to garden**.



Plastic growbags create portable gardens, giving the [almost 40 million](#) Americans living in apartments and condo-units **access to healthy, fresh produce, herbs and flowers**.



DIY growbags are easy to make from repurposed plastic bags.