

# GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

## 10 Designer-Approved Items Every First Home Needs

They're non-negotiable, according to the pros.

BY [MONIQUE VALERIS](#) PUBLISHED: SEP 2, 2025

Purchasing your first home is a major accomplishment. You finally saved up for the down payment, secured a good mortgage, made it to the closing, and jumped through all the hoops to move into your new space. But there's one other major task to consider: choosing the right furniture and decor to make your house a home.

Here, interior designers reveal the top items to consider investing in for your very first home, especially if you're on a tight budget. "The best items to invest in for first-time homeowners are the pieces that have the greatest impact, but are still mobile to bring with you to the next place," says Theresa Ory of [Theresa Ory Interiors](#).

From finding a [comfortable sofa](#) that will hold up over time to choosing a [high-quality mattress](#), this list will help you make the right design choices to craft the home of your dreams and spend your money wisely.



JOHN KEEBLE // GETTY IMAGES

### 8

#### Statement Living Room Rug

Rugs ground an interior, and it's crucial to [choose the right one](#) for your living room ([Etsy](#) is a good place to look). They make the space feel cozier and let you show off your aesthetic. "The most impactful investment piece for a new home is a high-quality rug for the main living area," says Rayman Boozer of [Apartment48 Interior Design](#). "A hand-knotted rug from Nepal or Tibet can be the jumping off point for the decor and could become a family heirloom."

Olivia Botrie of [Dart Studio](#) recommends going vintage: "Vintage rugs are nearly indestructible, last for generations, and instantly bring warmth, texture, and personality to a space. They don't just cover your floors—they tell a story and make your home feel truly yours!"