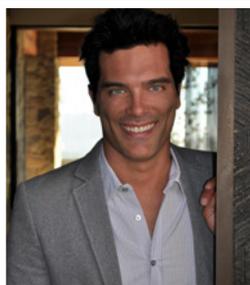




A BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED KITCHEN IN LOS ANGELES' LOS FELIZ NEIGHBORHOOD, RECENTLY COMPLETED BY KRZYSTON AND HIS TEAM. **MIDDLE:** DESIGNER AND CONTRACTOR, JUSTIN KRZYSTON.



## Sprucing Up for Winter with **JUSTIN KRZYSTON**

The holidays mean parties, people and spending more time at home. Contractor and designer Justin Krzyston shares his tips on preparing for winter.

### **#1 - ELEVATE THE LOOK OF THE ROOMS**

**WHERE YOU ENTERTAIN:** Adding crown molding to a room will immediately make the room more elegant. You can find pre-cut molding at most home improvement stores.

### **#2 - SWITCH ALL THE LIGHTING TO**

**DIMMERS:** It's a great way to create a cozy home setting for winter. And always switch out the bulbs to more energy efficient ones!

### **#3 - UPDATE YOUR KITCHEN CABINETS:**

Cabinets will be the most costly to replace. However you can cut costs by refinishing existing cabinets and changing the hardware rather than replacing the cabinets entirely.

### **#4 - REPLACE THE COUNTERTOPS:**

You can easily take off existing countertops and

replace them with a new slab of stone. I am a huge fan of Silestone's solid colors. They come in large pieces so you will have fewer seams.

### **#5 - SPRUCE UP THE BATHROOMS:**

Having company over for the holidays means the bathrooms need attention too. You can easily update without a full renovation by simply changing bathroom fixtures such as the toilet, sink and shower trim. And the shower curtains must go! Install partial glass doors on your shower for a modern, clean look.

### **#6 - CHECK YOUR INSULATION:**

This is one of the easiest ways to control your energy costs. Effective insulation slows the rate that heat flows out of the house in winter or into the house in summer, so less energy is required to heat or

cool the house. If your house has no wall insulation, and it has more-or-less continuous wall cavities (such as conventional stud walls), blown-in insulation can greatly improve your comfort and save enough energy to be very cost-effective.

### **#7 - REPLACE YOUR OLD FURNACE WITH A HIGH EFFICIENCY SYSTEM:**

If your furnace was built before 1992 and has a standing pilot, it probably wastes 30-40% of the fuel it uses, and is probably near the end of its service life.

### **#8 - INSTALL A PROGRAMMABLE**

**THERMOSTAT:** Many thermostats now can be controlled remotely via your iPhone!