



Top 10 DIY Lumber Projects

Tackling a DIY lumber project is a great way to freshen up the look of your house without a major remodeling investment.

Here are our top ten DIY lumber projects to put on your home improvement list.

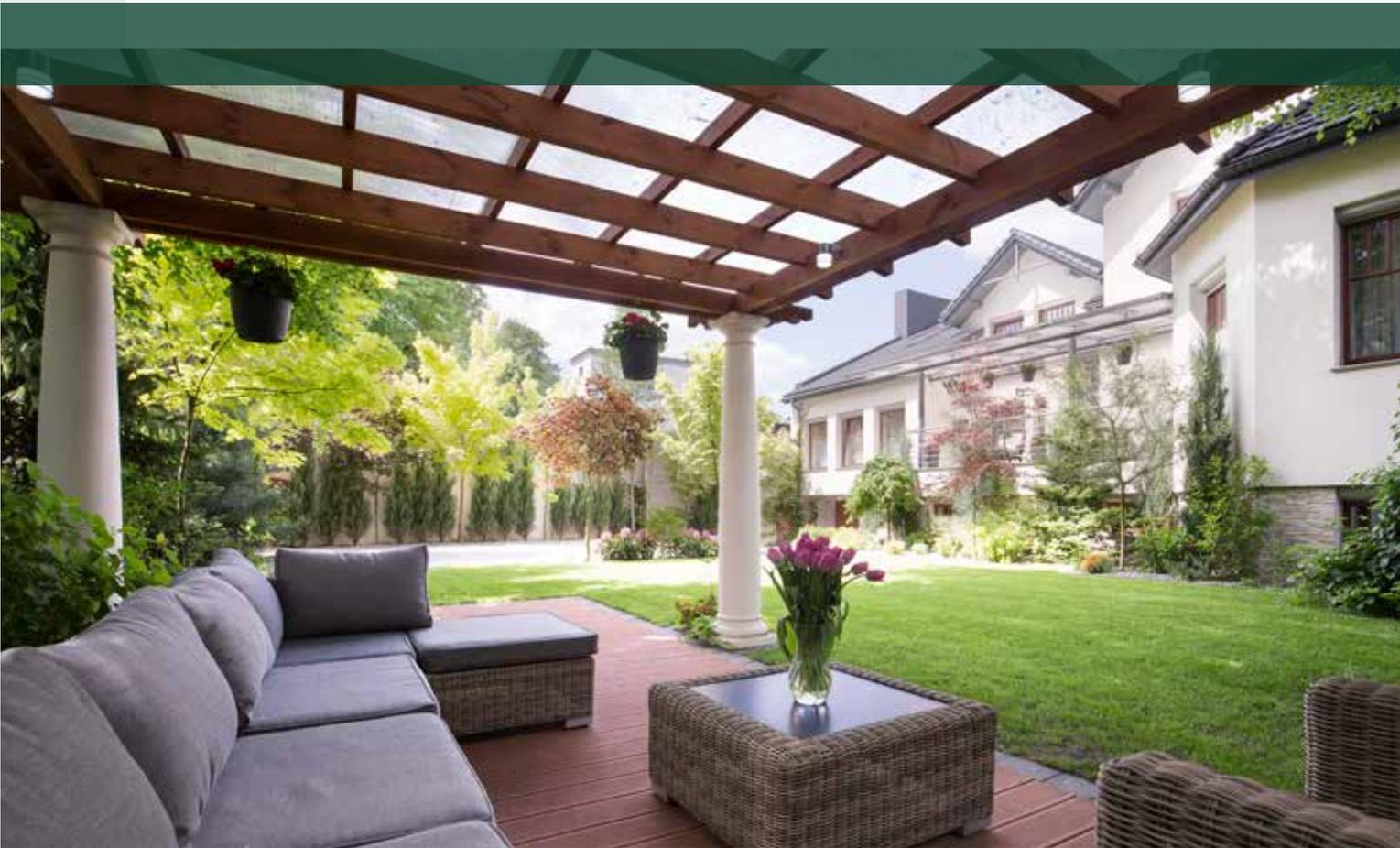


1. Upgrade Your Patio Cover

Patio covers aren't just there to block the sun and rain. A decorative patio cover can expand your usable outdoor living area by creating an inviting gathering space. Pick a patio cover design that complements your home's aesthetic and provides the perfect blend of sun, shade and decoration to match your taste.

J&W Lumber has all the materials you'll need including wood, hardware, aluminum, finishing trim, and pre-fab kits.

[Download](#) our useful Patio Cover Project Basics guide before you start.

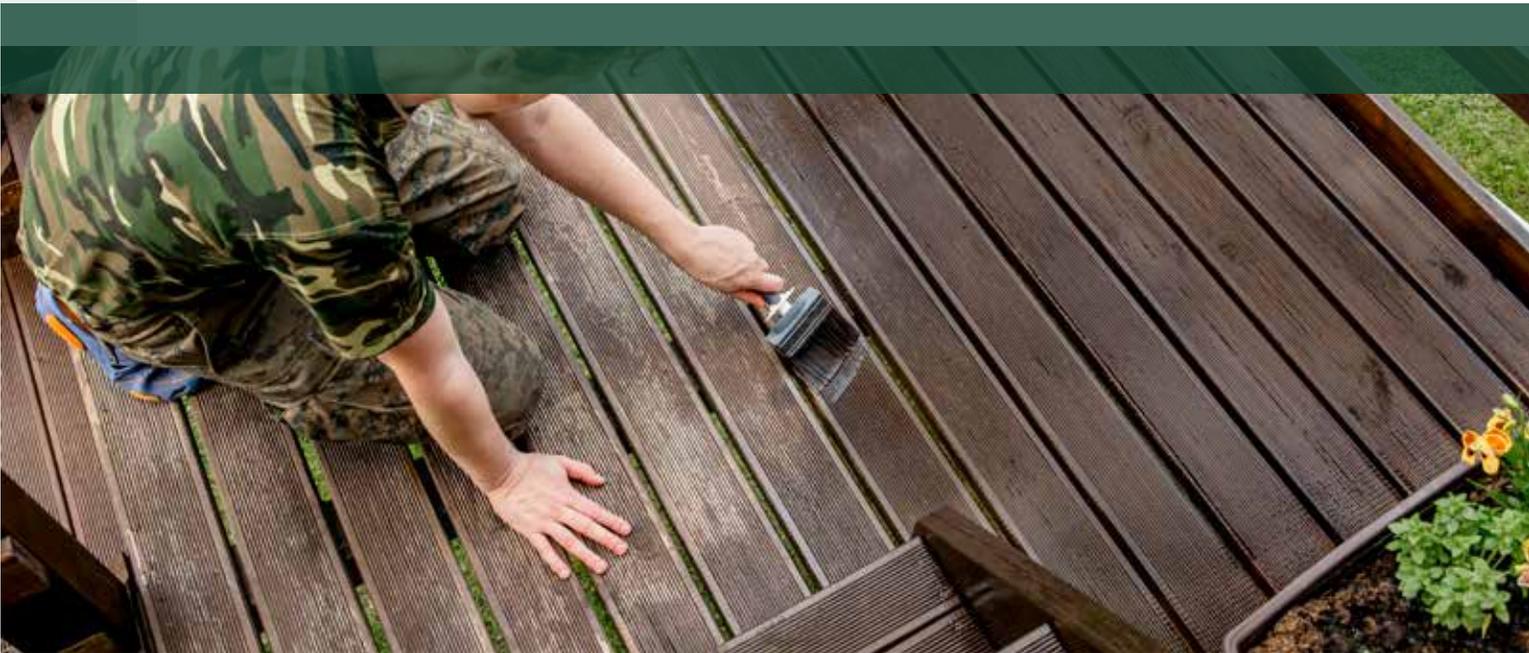


2. Repair Your Deck — Or Build a New One

Crawl or walk under your existing structure and check for signs of decay on the posts, rust stains around the hardware, and any loose connection points. Replace rusty hardware with outdoor-rated galvanized steel and swap out rotted posts or planks with fresh lumber. For a quick upgrade, replace your handrail with new lumber and hardware.

If your backyard doesn't currently feature a deck, think about installing one. Low decks that sit directly on the ground are easy to design and build yourself. Redwood and cedar are attractive, cost-effective materials, while composites like Trex decking can withstand weather without requiring much ongoing maintenance. Meanwhile, Mangaris hardwood, Ipe hardwood, and Moso bamboo decking offer a sophisticated modern look.

Before you dig in, [check out](#) this handy list of Top Decking Mistakes to avoid.



3. Replace Damaged Siding

Your siding takes a beating throughout the year, causing it to require replacement. Walk the perimeter of your house, paying special attention to areas that see high wear and tear: areas where kids play, door and window frames, and spots where siding meets the ground. Bring in a small sample of your siding and we'll help you find the right replacement.

If you're thinking of performing a major overhaul – due to damage or just because you're in the market for a new look – [here are some helpful Tips to Pick the Right Siding.](#)



4. Build a Beautiful Garden Box

A garden box is a great lumber project for the first time DIYer. Made of high-quality redwood that can withstand the elements and ground contact, their simple structure helps less experienced builders understand basic construction and assembly techniques.

We offer raised and on-ground garden bed kits that include all the pre-cut pieces of wood and hardware you'll need.



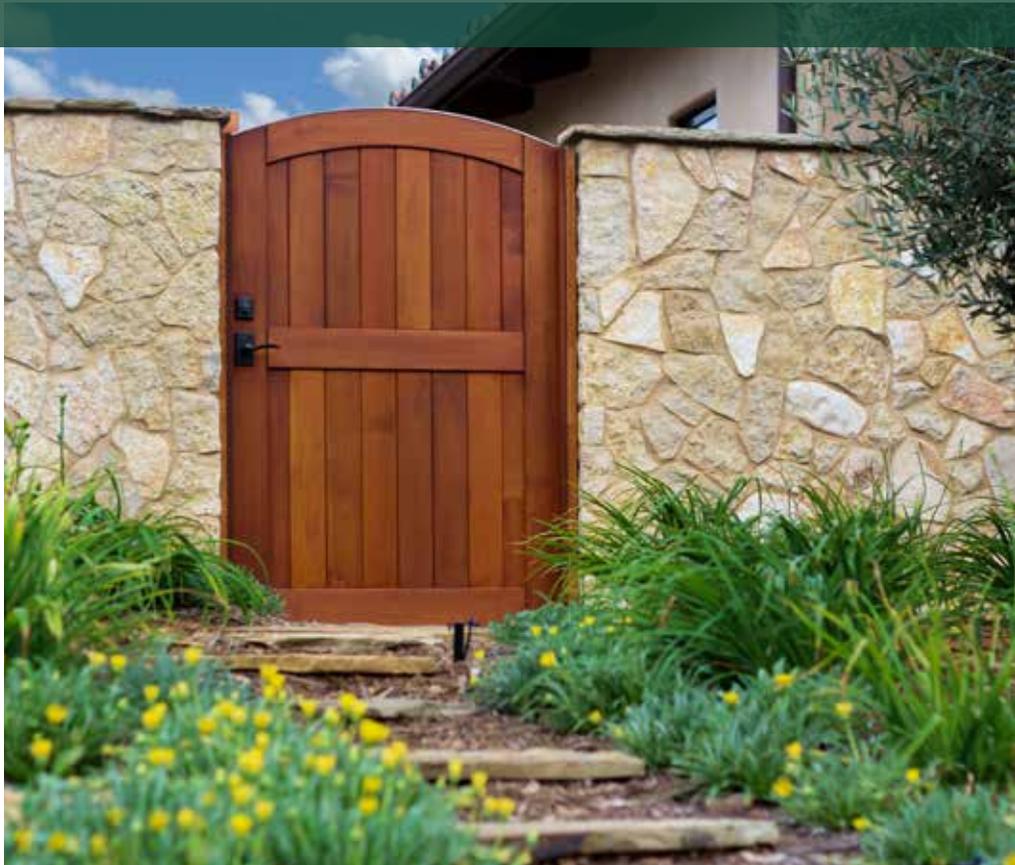
5. Fix Up Your Fence

Your fence is the first thing you see when you come home and the last thing you see each day when you leave. Show it a little love. Examine your fence posts and planks for damage. If your fence needs repairs, bring your measurements down to the lumber yard to obtain replacement materials. Now is a great time to strike up a conversation with your neighbors about splitting the cost of installing an entirely new fence in 2020 that looks fabulous from both sides.



6. Get a Great Gate

Your fence gate is the first point of entrance to your home. Make sure it looks stunning. If your gate has problems like broken boards, a latch that's out of alignment, scrapes the ground, or general discoloration, remember: you're not stuck with it. Save the time and design headache by selecting a craftsman-designed pre-fabricated Sederra™ Western Red Cedar gate that matches the look of your home. These gates give you the opportunity to install a creative, polished-looking gate without the major investment of building one from scratch.



7. Expand Your Outdoor Seating Area

Sturdy, weather-resistant outdoor seating creates an inviting gathering area any time of year. Build a picnic table for outdoor dining, install benches or low wooden storage boxes, or assemble pre-fab wood or composite outdoor furniture to spruce up your space and increase your outdoor seating. Talk to the specialists at the lumber yard about the type of seating you want, and they'll help you select the best materials and design for the job.



8. Install an Interior Feature Wall

Don't limit yourself to using wood only outdoors — lumber looks great in interior spaces as well. Create a warm, inviting focal point in your family room by installing a Coeur d'Alene Wood feature wall. This decorative, lightweight wood undergoes a special “aging” process to give new wood a weathered appearance. Because Coeur d'Alene Wood is available in lots of colors and textures, you can mix and match materials to create a one-of-a-kind pattern.



9. Incorporate Lighting

Don't limit your time in your backyard to daylight hours – add lighting! Add Trex deck lighting to enhance the feel of your outdoor space. Or, add string lights up on your patio cover for a soft outdoor lighting scheme that adds a bit of romance.



10. Pretty Up Your Space with a Privacy Screen

Don't limit yourself to a basic fence when there are so many attractive privacy screen options. Made of durable Australian hardwood with multiple colors and privacy levels, weather resistant decorative panels add visual interest to your garden while performing double duty as a fence. Choose the color and pattern that fits your outdoor area, keeping in mind that you can choose to surround your space with privacy screen, or install just a single feature wall. No matter what, privacy screens allow air flow and sunlight while creating an eye-catching backdrop for your yard.



These DIY projects are a great way to give your home a fresh look. Looking for other ideas? Talk to the specialists at your local lumber yard for more DIY projects to tackle now. They'll help with all the materials and know-how you need to turn your ideas into reality.

Want to get started on any of these projects?
The team at J&W Lumber is available to help.

Stop by one of our San Diego area locations to discuss your options with our siding specialists.

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