



# HOME & GARDEN

## Finding the right floor

Hill from The Floor Store offers tips

By Steven Mitchell  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Replacing the floors in a home is a surefire way to give it a new look. But purchasing quality flooring and hiring qualified professionals can get expensive fast.

Janet Hill, owner of The Floor Store in John Day, offers a few suggestions to ensure you're getting the most for your money.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

Vinyl floors are water-resistant and good for damp areas.

### What to consider?

Hill said she tells people to think about colors. She told the Eagle that Grant County is a more dusty environment, unlike other more populated areas.

The darker the colors, the dustier and more high maintenance the floors will get. She said, even with carpet, she tells people to stay away from more solid colors and go with more of a fleck-colored tone. She said the advantage of a fleck is that it does not show stains when someone with dirty shoes comes or spills coffee.

"We don't have a lot of pavement and concrete, and you don't want to have something that is so high maintenance," she said.

### What is popular right now?

Lately, Hill said the Floor

Store is selling quite a bit of area rugs.

She said it is an "inexpensive" way to give a room a new look.

"Even if people have hardwood floors, often they like to put down an area rug to refresh a room," Hill said.

Hill said she tends to sell more area rugs in the fall as people are usually looking for something to warm up a room or floor.

She said another popular flooring product is luxury vinyl planking. She said the vinyl is water-resistant and more appropriate for places that endure high moisture levels like kitchens, bathrooms and basements.

She said laminate, another product, is in demand as well. While not as water-resistant as vinyl, laminate is scratch and scuff resistant.

### Housing boom and COVID-19

Hill, who has been in business in John Day for over 20 years, said the housing boom has been great for business.

"There are a lot of new people moving into the area, and so there's a lot of new customers," she said.

She said she thinks, with COVID-19, people were home much more and have wanted to refresh their homes.

### Getting an estimate

Hill said estimates are free, and she is happy to come out to someone's home, see what they have and offer recommendations.

"I can quote in carpet or hard surface," she said.

She said people can also take samples of carpets and hard surfaces to get an idea of what they want.

## A machine for every situation

Bobcat MT52 at Frontier Equipment is perfect for a variety of projects

By Rudy Diaz  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Need a tiller, auger, bucket, jack hammer, stump grinder, trencher or sweeper? A compact track loader may be the perfect resource.

Bryan and Courtney Montague of Frontier Equipment in Mt. Vernon said their Bobcat MT52 provides the versatility and accessibility that makes it the ideal machine for anybody to use on home and garden projects.

"You don't have to be an equipment expert to use the machine, which is really nice because I know there's a lot of ladies out there that might be scared to learn how to use a machine," Courtney said.

She used the machine herself on multiple occasions to haul freshly cut logs and other projects around her home.

The front of the MT52 compact track loader is interchangeable with various implements to accommodate



The Eagle/Rudy Diaz

The Bobcat MT52 has multiple attachments to handle various jobs.

any outdoor project. Courtney said that changing the attachments on the machine is quick and easy for any homeowner to do.

"It's part of the machine that I want people to really know about," Bryan said. "People can see a skid or excavator and most homeowners know what they are, but this is something that almost every homeowner can use."

Bryan said his family used the machine a month ago to take a fence out. The Montagues also used the machine to clear out snow from the driveway and in front of their business with the angle broom attachment. Bryan said the machine also helps around the shop with pallet work.

Courtney said the machine

See Machine, Page B10

## HAVE YOU SEEN THIS WEED?

Perennial Pepperweed is a perennial weed that grows from 1 to 6 feet tall. This weed establishes and colonizes very rapidly. Perennial Pepperweed often grows in hay meadows, and disturbed areas. This noxious weed is beginning to show up in various areas throughout Grant County. It's believed that Perennial Pepperweed is entering the county in hay. If you find or think you have found this weed please contact Grant SWCD Weed Control at 541-575-1554.

### Perennial Pepperweed

(Lepidium latifolium)



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