

Fixer-upper listings increased 96 percent in Houston

By **Darla Guillen**, Chron.com / Houston Chronicle Published 11:45 am, Tuesday, October 25, 2016



IMAGE 16 OF 44

AFTER:
The Minyards kept much of their furniture in the redesign, including a sofa and two lounge chairs. The chairs, covered in a brown floral fabric, were reupholstered to fit the home's cool palette. Designer Pamela O'Brien urged the Minyards to invest in high-quality rugs. For the living room, they chose an Angura rug with a large asymmetrical tribal design. Check out these photos from the [rest of the renovation](#).

Fixer-upper listings in Houston have increased 96 percent from 2011 to 2016, while general for-sale inventory has decreased by nearly 9 percent, a new study by **Zillow** shows.

The Seattle-based real estate and rental marketplace also found that Houston's *high-end* fixer-upper listings increased 157 percent over the same time period.

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"There are not enough homes on the market to accommodate buyer demand in many U.S. metros," Zillow reported in its latest study. "As a result, sellers have increasingly more flexibility to list their home for sale 'as is' because they know it will likely still sell."

The study also showed that the average age of a home in the U.S. is a contributing factor. The median home age in the U.S. was 28 years old by the end of 2015, compared to 15 years old in 2006.

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"Across the country, homes are selling fast and for high prices," Svenja Gudell, Zillow's chief economist, said in a prepared statement. "Sellers are in the driver's seat, with the freedom to list their or the home sitting on the market. And as aged, so home buyers are finding more

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