

# Home Depot debuts new Houston store near The Heights

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A new Home Depot store opened this week in the Lower Heights development in Houston's Inner Loop.

Home Depot is opening a new store near The Heights this week in what would become the brand's closest location to downtown Houston as its sales remain steady despite fears of inflation weakening consumer spending on home improvement projects.

The Atlanta-based retailer officially opened the new 108,000 square-foot store this week within the Lower Heights, a 24-acre mixed-use development south of The Heights and Interstate 10, east of Studemont Street and north of Target.

Located at 2777 Katy Freeway, the store will allow Home Depot to tap into Houston's growing Inner Loop population, potentially propping up demand despite the cooling home sales market. Earlier in the pandemic, the home improvement sector enjoyed a surge in demand as consumers hunkered down and focused on home improvement projects or preparing their homes to be listed for sale during the real estate boom. That also fueled many home improvement chains to double down on digital sales, using their retail locations to fulfil online orders and adding new e-commerce-oriented warehouses, including a relatively new Home Depot distribution center off of Highway 249 in North Houston.

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Despite fears that rising prices would cause consumers to pull back on big purchases and remodeling projects, Home Depot [reported](#) higher-than-expected earnings for the second quarter last month. Although it expects sales to slow in the second half of the year, it's still anticipating comparable sales to be up by about 3 percent this year. Its executives said that consumers aren't trading down much and construction project backlogs are keeping sales steady.

However, the company is only opening two brick-and-mortar retail locations this year, and both in parts of the country with big population gains, including Houston and another Phoenix area store. Although Houston is experiencing near double-digit inflation, the metro continues to add jobs at a brisk pace with employers hiring for [22,000 jobs in July -- the seventeenth month of job gains](#).

Home Depot hired 160 employees to run its new Houston store. The firm bought the 9-acre parcel for the property from an affiliate of Gulf Coast Commercial in early 2021, according to Harris County records.

The store is part of the [second phase of the Lower Heights](#) mixed-use development underway on land that was once an abandoned industrial site. Lower Heights already includes a Target, Total Wine & More, Kroger and Ulta, among other retailers.

Gulf Coast Commercial last year added a new 35,000 square-foot building in the development at 1440 Studemont, where Milano Nail Spa is set to open an expanded space this month. The developer also recently completed construction on a nearly 25,000 square-foot building expected to house office and retail tenants (including a new lash bar M'Beauty), plus a 6,000 square-foot building to house Veterinary Emergency Group.

The new Home Depot will be open Monday-Saturday 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.