

Massachusetts Tax-Free Weekend Covers Flooring and Home Improvement Materials

MA Tax-Free Weekend (Aug 8–9) covers flooring, rugs, cabinets & window treatments under \$2,500 per item for qualifying retail purchases.

SEEKONK, MA, UNITED STATES, July 28, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Back-to-school gear may dominate the ads, but Massachusetts' Tax-Free Weekend is not limited to laptops and clothing. The

exemption is price-based, not category-based. Most single tangible retail items under \$2,500 qualify, including flooring, area rugs, cabinets, and window treatments bought in a retail showroom. This year's holiday is August 8–9, 2026. With Rhode Island offering no equivalent break, it is a practical window for homeowners on both sides of the state line.

“

We used to plan our biggest promotions around Memorial Day and Black Friday. Now the weekend that actually moves the needle is Tax-Free Weekend.”

Mark Chiavelli

How the Massachusetts Tax Exemption Actually Works

Massachusetts runs its sales tax holiday under M.G.L. c. 64H, § 6A. For qualifying retail goods, shoppers do not pay the state's 6.25% sales tax when each item is priced at \$2,499.99 or under. That break applies to the entire tax on the item, not a partial reduction. Department of Revenue figures for 2025 put total consumer savings at roughly

\$37.7 million across the two-day weekend last year - a total driven by a wide mix of retail categories, not only back-to-school shopping.

What the [tax break](#) can mean on real home improvement tickets:

- Fifteen \$175 boxes of hardwood flooring: \$164.06 in tax savings
- A \$1,750 area rug: \$109.38 in tax savings
- A \$2,299 set of custom window shades: \$143.69 in tax savings

Savings are calculated per item, not on the cart, so every qualifying line in the same checkout can



reduce the tax bill.

What Rhode Island Shoppers Should Know

Rhode Island imposes a 7% sales tax on retail purchases and does not designate an annual sales tax holiday equivalent to Massachusetts. For East Providence and broader Providence-area homeowners, crossing into Massachusetts on August 8–9 to purchase qualifying home improvement materials at a retail showroom represents a tax savings their home state does not offer. The exemption applies to purchases made in Massachusetts, at Massachusetts retail locations, during the designated weekend.

Why Shoppers Often Misinterpret What Counts

A lot of people treat Tax-Free Weekend as a back-to-school event only for the purchase of notebooks, devices, and clothes. That is not how Massachusetts writes the rule. The Department of Revenue applies the break to tangible retail merchandise in general. If a homeowner buys flooring in a showroom and pays in full during Tax-Free Weekend - and each item is priced under \$2,500 - that is typically a qualifying retail sale even if delivery is scheduled for a later date.

Which Home Improvement Items Are Tax-Free in Massachusetts and Which Aren't?

Massachusetts limits the sales tax holiday to certain retail goods under a set price cap. For flooring and kitchen & bath shoppers, the practical breakdown looks like this:

Generally eligible when bought at retail and under \$2,500 per item

- Flooring sold by the piece or carton including carpet, hardwood, laminate, luxury vinyl plank,



Seekonk Flooring Store's Tile Floor



Seekonk Floors & Kitchens Today on Highland Avenue

and tile

- Soft window coverings and related products such as area rugs, blinds, shades, shutters, and drapery
- Cabinet and countertop materials purchased as retail materials (not as part of a single contractor install contract)

Not eligible

- Any one item with a price tag of \$2,500 or higher. The tax applies to the full price, not only the amount over the cap
- Labor, installation, and related service charges. Only tangible merchandise is covered
- Jobs billed as a single contractor construction contract where materials and install are packaged together

The exemption is aimed at retail material purchases under the per-item threshold. Once a line item hits \$2,500, or the sale is structured as contracted labor-plus-materials, the tax holiday usually does not apply.

What if the total purchase exceeds \$2,500?

The Massachusetts Department of Revenue states: "If the price of each individual item is \$2,500 or less, you can combine as many items as you want, tax-free, even if the combined items cost more than \$2,500." Since the \$2,500 threshold applies per item, and not per transaction, a homeowner purchasing fifty boxes of tile flooring at \$125 each, for a \$6,250 total order, pays no sales tax since each individual item falls below the threshold.

Timing for Fall Projects

Homeowners in the Seekonk and Bristol County area and residents of East Providence and surrounding Rhode Island communities, who are planning a renovation project, have a two-day window to purchase qualifying materials at the tax-exempt rate. The exemption applies to in-store retail purchases made on August 8–9, 2026, during normal business hours, as well as other qualifying retail purchases paid in full during the holiday.

"We used to plan our biggest promotions around Memorial Day and Black Friday. Now the weekend that actually moves the needle is Tax-Free Weekend," said Mark Chiavelli, Owner, [Floors & Kitchens Today](#).

According to Chiavelli, the psychology of the purchase has changed. "Customers aren't asking us what the discount is first. They're confirming they'll be able to place their order within the tax holiday window. That single question tells you everything about how this weekend has reordered the calendar for home projects."

He also points to a quieter effect on local business. "When someone can put several thousand dollars of flooring or cabinetry on the books without sales tax, they stop defaulting to the big-box flyer. They start comparing quality and service again. For a shop like ours, that opens the door in a way a coupon never could."

About Floors & Kitchens Today - Seekonk

Floors & Kitchens Today has served the Seekonk community since 2011 from its showroom at 10 Highland Ave, Seekonk, MA 02771. The store carries carpet, hardwood, laminate, luxury vinyl plank, tile, area rugs, cabinetry, countertops, and window treatments. Free in-home estimates and consultations are available.

For questions about specific purchase eligibility, consumers may contact the Massachusetts Department of Revenue at mass.gov/dor or (617) 887-6367.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mark Chiavelli
Floors & Kitchens Today
+1 508-761-1230
mark@floorsandkitchenstoday.com

Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

[X](#)

[Other](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/929794791>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2026 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.