



"A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows"

Happy Spring BHT FANS!

With having this Bee in my Bonnet buzzing around with all these great ideas...I want to introduce some fantastic ways to spruce up your Home & Garden without it being a budget buster. Freshening up your Home & Garden doesn't require a lot of money; it just requires some imagination!

When it comes to interior home decor, it's easy to get into a rut. We get used to our surroundings and don't notice when things start to look worn or dreary. Over time, a certain malaise can set in. It's not that we're unhappy with our homes; rather—that our living spaces no longer trigger the sparks of contentment and feelings of refuge that they once did. Happily, it doesn't have to be difficult or costly to do a little improvement and spruce up our home decor.

5 Easy Ideas To Spruce Up Your House

1. A Fresh Coat of Paint

A fresh coat of paint costs very little, takes only a day or two of time, and quickly brings light and airiness to your home. Quick tip: If you're considering a major change in color, paint a card-

board square first with the color, hang it on the wall for a day or two to get a feel for what the color will look like at various times of the day and evening.

2. Screens & Room Dividers

Many homes have great rooms that flow from the foyer to the living room, dining room, and kitchen. While some people embrace this open architecture, others feel that it robs living space of intimacy. An inexpensive way to divide rooms is with privacy screens. Known as shoji screens in Japan, screens are about four feet tall with two, three, or four panels. They serve to create smaller, cozier spaces within a larger room, and their portability enables you to rearrange them periodically to bring a fresh look to your dining or living room.

3. Lighting

The fastest way to change the mood of your home décor is to change the lighting. If you have overhead lights, switch to wall sconces. If your dining room needs a pick-me-up, install a new chandelier. Re-lighting a bathroom can have a dramatic impact, as can adding table lamps to end tables in the living room.

4. Create More Space

If your living quarters are small or just cluttered, many interior home décor

A HOME & GARDEN with GiGi Bishop

techniques can make the space seem larger. Use nesting tables to conserve space in your living room and buy a coffee table with a lid or drawers to add storage space. Baskets can be both decorative and functional, offering a place to put magazines, craft supplies, or even table linens.

5. State Your Style

Add personal flavor to a room by implementing a theme. Whether Contemporary, Shabby Chic, Cape Cod, Southwestern, or Mediterranean, incorporate pieces that reflect your aesthetic. Carry on the style with throw rugs, decorative pillows, and artwork. Changing up fab-

ric patterns, textures, and fabrications can quickly shift the mood of a room. As part of the CURE—start buying fresh flowers and cooking meals at home to bring life into the space. It's all about coaxing joy and inspiration into your home. As soon as we add a vase of fresh flowers to a table we suddenly get motivation to clear the clutter away. In

Annual Flowers

Annuals and die out and have to be replanted each year. The cool thing about annuals is you can change the look of your garden to suit your color fancy. These blooms work well in gardens, and as edgings and borders.

Perennial Flowers

Perennial flowers come back year after year. The advantage is you never need to replant them. However, short of transplanting them all, you are pretty much locked-in to your original garden design. One tip with perennials is to choose them based on their tolerance of sun or shade. Another is to choose perennials in different heights to create more visual impact.



Flower Bulbs

Flower bulbs come back each year, after being dormant over winter months. Most bulbs are strong and reliable and don't need much care. And like perennials, you can plant bulbs according to flowering times for a constant array of color.

Roses

Plant a rose garden so it gets at least six hours of sun a day. Eliminate weeds and roses come around each year.



places like the kitchen and bathroom bring more life and beauty inside in the form of cut flowers and houseplants.

Spring Gardening Tips:

The perfect opportunity to add color is by way of outdoor flowers and plants. If you have garden space or a small

The best way for a person to garden is to put on a wide-brimmed straw hat and some old, favorite, comfortable clothes and shoes. With a hoe in one hand and a nice cold drink in the other—relax and—well maybe then tell somebody else where to dig.