

Times Property

Beat the cold with these design hacks

Spruce up your home for the season with these easy and effective modifications that won't burn a hole in your pocket



AN UNCONSTRUCTED IMAGE

ROHAN PATIL,
@timesofindia.com

Whether you're looking to add warmth, comfort, or a touch of freshness, a few clever adjustments can transform your home with minimal spend. Here's how you can spruce up your space without stretching your budget.

Layer up Layering your house and accessories often gives it a much-needed makeover. Affirming the same, Parul Mittal of Greenlam Industries shares her thoughts and advises, "Introduce layers of soft fabric to add warmth to a room. Throws, pillows, and rugs in rich, textured fabrics, think velvet, wool, or faux fur, will instantly make a space feel cosy."

Colours, too, can impact the look and feel of your home for the season. Seikant SK, head of customer experience, Hira Opus Paints, says, "Consider hues that evoke comfort, like deep reds and rich earthy tones to create a space that truly reflects your unique style." Jamshed Banaji, architect, and one of the founders of Banaji & Associates, suggests sticking to a colour palette of warm neutrals, soft greys, or jewel tones

for a sophisticated look. He says, "Drape blankets over sofas, armchairs or even at the foot of the bed. Adding layers of textiles will not only make a room feel snug, but also enhance the visual appeal of your space."

Warm things up The use of wood in interior design is often associated with warmth and richness. To that effect, consider adding a few items in this material that complement your overall decor. Varun Poddar, founder, VOX India, says, "Strategically incorporate wooden elements or natural wood tones—be it by way of furniture or decorative accessories—into your interiors for instant warmth."

Natural elements, too, can instantly give your home a wintry, rustic vibe. Minnie Bhatt, founder and design director, Minnie Bhatt Design, says, "Seasonal greenery, such as pine branches, eucalyptus, or holly, will give your home a refreshing touch. Arrange them in vases, create a winter wreath, or add small sprigs to your table settings."

Light up your home Lighting also plays a significant role in setting the mood for the cold weather. Nirmala Banaji,

architect and founder of Banaji & Associates, recommends investing in an assortment of lights. She says, "Place fairy lights around windows, on shelves, or in glass jars; and clusters of candles on tables and mantels to brighten up dark corners of your home. Ambient lighting will make your living spaces feel intimate and enchanting."

Also, look beyond visual elements. Jamshed asserts, "Scents can make a big difference in a space. Look for cinnamon, vanilla, or cedarwood scented candles, diffusers, or even homemade potpourri to make your home feel like a true sanctuary."

Small changes, big impact You don't necessarily have to make drastic changes to achieve your design goals, as often, even a small DIY project can make a difference. "Add themed accents like snowflakes, stars, or reindeer motifs that can be easily found at thrift and craft stores. You could even create paper snowflakes, hang a winter wreath, or decorate doorknobs and window frames with ribbons," elaborates Nirmala.

Windows of joy

Often a neglected part of home décor, you can make use of your windows to showcase your winter décor. Simply swap breezy and summery curtains with thick or velvet drapes in deeper or earthy tones to retain heat within your space.

Finally, consider rearranging your furniture to create intimate, cosy seating arrangements. "Place chairs closer together or add a small side table near the fireplace to make the space feel inviting. Additionally, place a basket with extra blankets or throws in your living area which your guests can use for extra warmth," concludes Jamshed.



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