

# Refresh and renew your home with decorative accessories

By Maria Fox

The positive effects of the right accessories for the home are as favorable as those for the wardrobe. And just as fashion accessories can make or break an outfit, the right decorative accents complete your home's look and style. Decorative accessories can be large or small and include things like: art, mirrors, accent furniture, indoor plants, lamps, floral designs, towels, candles, candlesticks, bed linens, throw pillows and blankets, books, bookends, frames, decorative vases, boxes or sculptures.

Home décor additions should enhance the existing décor, not dominate it. Think of your home as an expression of your style and taste and choose your accessories with this in mind. Don't buy things to fill space, rather select those items that you love and can resonate with. A bit of advice here, a love of monkeys doesn't necessarily warrant hanging a portrait of one on the living room wall. Yet, a small bronze monkey may be the perfect touch for that shelf in the powder room.

When buying home accessories, choose those that can be moved to several locations within your home. Not to say that a few special pieces shouldn't be purchased with a specific place in the mind, as those items are important. Think of collecting the right decorative accessories as a process, and there is a time and place for economy. Shop for heart value first and price value second whenever you can, especially on the prominent pieces that will "make or break" a room. Choosing an art piece because it is on sale rather than because you love it will not only result in a less than stunning effect, but another purchase later on. The truth is, heart value will prove more economical over time. Obviously, thrift is warranted with smaller less prominent items that could (and should) be changed out seasonally, like pillows, plants, towels, candles or even bed linens.

This year on the HGTV Dream Home giveaway, the family room was designed for several different seasons, allowing the lucky winner to easily change the room throughout the year. It was easy to see that with a change of throw pillows, a few new accessories on the coffee table and mantle, the room was instantly revitalized. And there's more good news. Changing a piece of art or adding a lamp is far less costly than new carpet or paint.

It's natural to tire of our interior spaces. After all, our home is where we spend most our time. A few simple changes can restore that sense of well being and inspiration that our home is meant to bring. This is when continuity throughout your interior will really pay off. Smart decorating offers the flexibility to freshen things up by rearranging things rather than acquiring new items.

Simple changes can satisfy our natural need for change. And as much as that new vase may have been perfect in the foyer last year, today it leaves you feeling a bit uninspired. A cohesive design plan can breathe new life into every item in every room. Just by moving things around a bit you'll feel things come alive again.

As with apparel, don't be afraid to try things on. Often it is necessary to see things in the home (this is called "on approval" in the decorating world) before determining the right fit. In other words, you may need to make purchases in order to make the right choices. Just be clear on the return policies of the stores you patronize.

And finally, when in doubt — buy it! Don't let special treasures slip through your fingers through indecision. It is better to return something than to search for it in vain

the rest of your life.

Speaking of searching, a special tip for all those shoppers eager to find things cheaper on the Internet: Storefronts are not intended to be Internet showrooms. Additionally, your computer monitor will not give you all the aesthetic information you need to choose wisely. Remember, small business is the backbone of America. Your favorite stores are only there as long as they have customers.

*Information courtesy of Wight's Home & Garden, 5026 196th St. S.W., Lynnwood. Contact them at (425) 775-3636 or visit [www.wights.com](http://www.wights.com).*

*Inspiration is a Place!*  
*Discover a Shopping Experience as Unique as you are*



*Come see Ciscoe and learn about his favorite plants and vegetables!*  
*Saturday, March 28th 2-4 PM*

*Ciscoe will discuss his favorite must-have plants, showcasing spring blooming shrubs and perennials, as well as, vegetables including his beloved brussels sprouts.*

**Wight's**  
HOME & GARDEN

**Nursery | Home Décor | Gifts | Garden**

425-775-3636 | 5026 196th St SW, Lynnwood, 98036 | *Online Gift Cards Available at [wights.com](http://wights.com)*