

fresh summer style



IT'S TIME TO LIGHTEN and brighten your home with fresh colors like sunny yellow hues, bright oranges and blues that remind you of the sun, sand and water! Don't forget to mix these with white or off-white to achieve the perfect summer look. How about slipcovers—a Southern tradition that always seems to stay in style? Selecting lighter slipcover fabric for some of your upholstered pieces is another great way to freshen up your home for the season!

Add summer color with a fresh coat of paint and citrus-colored art and accessories. Paint is a very cost-effective way to update any room. Don't be afraid to "do it yourself" one weekend to make it all come together.

Every room seems cooler in the summer when you remove dark items. So roll up the Orientals or dark area rugs. Add a hand-woven or flat-weave rug with citrus yellow or marine blue—great summertime colors! There's also nothing like a seagrass or

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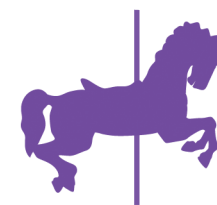


sisal rug to give your home a summer feeling. Then add fragrant flowers from the florist—or better yet, your garden—in white vases to complement the room's new vibrant colors.

Here's another easy idea: let the sunshine in! Clean the winter dirt off your windows, inside and out, so the sun reflects off your new summer colors in the room. I call in my favorite professional window cleaner, and he makes them sparkle. If you like, roll up your sleeves and do it yourself. Pull the shades up to let the sunshine stream in or put up sheer curtains.

Last but not least, consider bringing the beach to your home with a little music. Put on your favorite playlist, sit back and enjoy the new, fresh summer décor while the music takes you away to the ocean. Freshening up your house for the summer might just be the best beach escape!

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