



SPACES

Winter relax and breathe

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January, in many areas, is winter C O L D. The cozy transition into fall has passed and the comfort of the holidays leaves perhaps an exhausting state for most. Yet as the final days of December come to a close, January rings in the

New Year! It is an upward swing toward Spring with all the promise of the coming new growth and seasonal progression. So, with a sigh of relief, take a moment to pause and reflect as we prepare to RENEW!

Taking stock in your interior as you put away the festive decorations and release an exhale that signals the preparedness of the upcoming inhale, with which to begin the New Year! BREATHE! Yes, it is a great time to consider how you will enjoy the remaining winter weeks and prepare for the coming spring.

Winter is a cozy time. What began as fall set-in, with the warm colors of autumn, the winter of the new year suggests icy, cool, refreshing elements – balanced (there's that word again) with soft, warm textures. By purging the fall and early winter seasonal themes, we can introduce some fresh colors – cool blues that punctuate your cozy interiors. Retire that pumpkin-colored throw on the sofa with a refreshing winter white, silver-blue or soothing turquoise. The cool color will be



Cool colors, crystal silver, and winter whites are a refreshing palette for renewing the spaces around you.



Changing the vessel for your diffusers makes them more personal and customizes the look. Citrus is nice after the spicy scents of the holidays.

complimented by the snuggly texture, making a new look and feel to your interior as you enjoy the remaining weeks of winter.

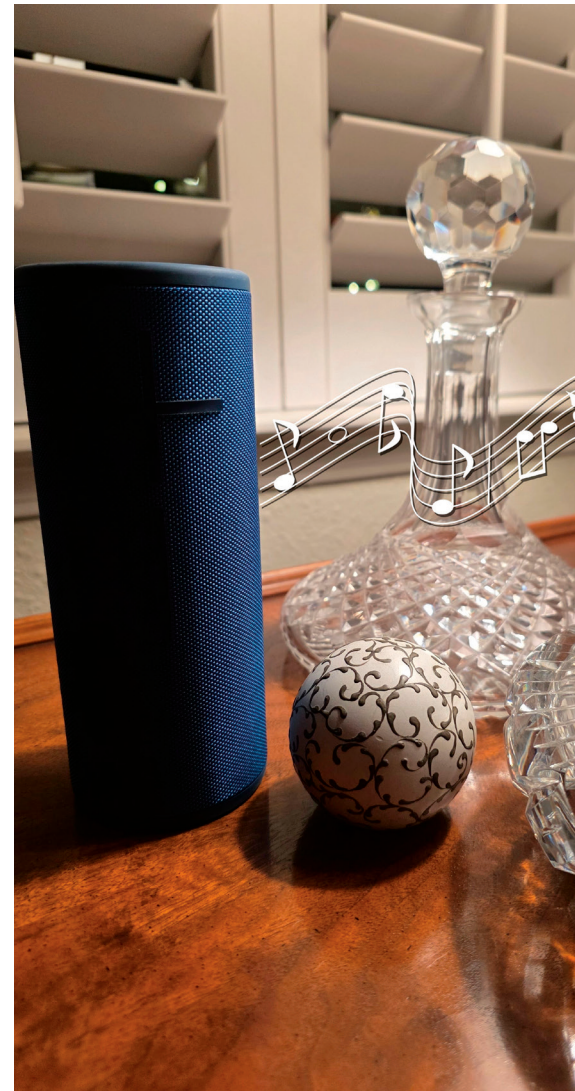
The crystal glimmer of snow in the sunshine offers inspiration for using crystal tableware, silver serving pieces and other opportunities for sparkle and shine. Live plants and flowers are a beautiful way to refresh your winter interiors. Where scents of cinnamon and cloves wafted from the pot of water simmering on your stove over the past few weeks, introduce some mint, pine, eucalyptus or even a bit of citrus to change the atmosphere of your home with a fresh new scent. I like creating potpourris,

or preparing herbs to simmer on the stove, but diffusers, sprays, and/or candles might be your preference.

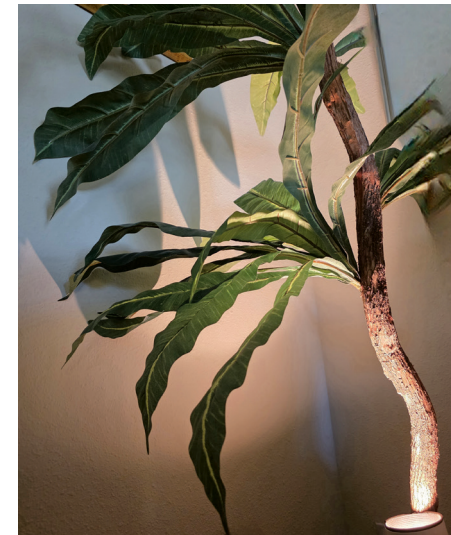
Explore new music or discover lost vintage recordings to have on in the background of your activities. While reading, cleaning, exercising, engaging in a hobby – music can contribute a tremendous atmosphere to your interiors. It's not always about furniture, fabrics and color – it is the entire atmosphere of a space. Refresh your space with new ideas and emphasis.

Emphasize your interior with lighting. These long dark evenings are perfect for adding up-lights in the corners of your

rooms. Glowing up from beneath plants they will cast shadows onto walls and ceilings that animate and illuminate dark corners. Add directional spotlights to enhance artwork. Remember that all light coming from the ceilings is not the most flattering. Like shining a flashlight upward from beneath your chin creates a ghoulish shadow effect, the same is true when all light comes from above. Add table lamps with translucent shades to cast ambient light around the space. There are so many ideas and opportunities to improve the lighting in your space and what better time than now, when the days are still short, to improve the



Interior spaces are comprised of all the senses. Change up your music for the new year – either something new and different or re-discover old favorites.



Lighting plays an important part in any scene. Especially during the winter months of shorter days and early darkness.

quality, color and amount of light in your interior (and exterior) spaces. Yes, landscape lighting is another detail that can be explored at this time of year as you peek out your windows and see plants illuminated from below and pathways identified with soft washes of light – not ablaze as though runways, but concealed lighting

that brighten the surface or object that you want to illuminate in the darkness. It is effective and exciting to add smart choices and placement outside too.



Your Neighbor,
Patti Harrell Hoech
Licensed Interior Designer
To ask Patti a question please scan the QR code!

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