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Season of rebirth

Melloney Thorne of Country Knole Interiors shares her expert advice

At first glance of the new spring bulbs bursting into flower, we feel light and heady with the emergence of spring and the promise it brings. Bright, sunny walks amongst dewy grass, smelling the fragrant blossom, signals an awakening of the senses long overcome with the cold and wet of winter.

This season of rebirth and regeneration can provoke much need for change at home. Our interior, which has been our cosy cocoon enveloping us throughout the long winter nights, now like nature, also needs to shake off the dead wood and sprout new life for the coming year.

In creating a new look for spring, re-paint or wallpaper in fresher, brighter tones to complement existing furnishings. This can dramatically change the feel of a room especially if light reflecting paint and softer more, cleaner colour tones are used.

Transform the appearance of a space by re-hanging pictures and photographs in different ways. Where a large canvas or picture once hung, consider hanging a mirror to reflect the brighter and more abundant spring light.

De-clutter and streamline walls of mismatched photographs or pictures by re-framing a collection and hanging to create a simpler and more effective display.

Breathe new life into old pieces of furniture by swapping pieces from room to room. An elegant hall table may sit nicely as a console behind a sofa in a lounge, similarly a small lounge side table may create a nice plant stand in a garden room or bathroom. A piece that has seen life, may welcome a coat of fresh paint to extend its life span and its place in your heart!

Springtime is bright, blooming and cheerful in a juxtaposition of colours and pattern so why not add some

Springtime is bright, blooming and cheerful in a juxtaposition of colours and pattern so why not add some of this verve into your interiors? ”



of this verve into your interiors? Be brave, be bold and add colour and pattern even if in small injections. Add vibrantly coloured cushions and throws in florals, stripes and paisleys onto sofas, chairs and beds, while the addition of colourful table linen, crockery and the odd tea towel into the kitchen/ dining room will really add some cheer.



Trimming existing cushions and throws with brightly coloured bobbles, braids and beads adds new flair and life to old furnishings. Trims also make joyful and interesting additions to the bottom of roman blinds and to the edges of curtains.

Upholstery can look tired as the bright new sunshine cascades through the windows at this time of year. Replacement loose covers for existing furniture are a very cost effective and simple way to update your interior



without re-decorating every year! Another is to replace heavy curtains used to keep out the winter chill with lighter drapes such as voiles or linens to let the glorious sunshine in.

Nothing says spring, quite like fresh spring flowers. Take inspiration from the garden by bringing in planters of bulbs and cut flowers. The sight and smell of freshly cut daffodils, tulips and hyacinth is sure to lift any Monday morning blues.

If your garden is not brimming with abundant blooms why not try lighting a beautifully scented candle? Scents such as wild bluebell, orange blossom and english pear and freesia are sure to flourish the soul and your interior with springtime vigour.

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