

Hints For The Home

Mantel Masterpiece

by Jill Bauer

(NAPSA)—The mantel is such a great focal point in any living room or family room but, often, it gets special treatment only during the holidays. Here are some new ideas to transform your mantel (or windowsill, bookshelf or coffee table) all year round.

Fall: Embrace harvest season and all of its bounty. Use large metal disks, stalks of wheat and decorative lanterns for height and then add apothecary jars filled with white pumpkins. A whimsical owl is a terrific touch, as are a few more pumpkins placed throughout.



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Winter: During winter, create a warm feeling with a big clock leaning against the wall or old books with simple white covers. Since there needs to be some height on each side, place lanterns on top of book piles or rustic candlesticks atop a heavy vintage box.

Spring: Nature is in full bloom. Use green, faux grass in a rustic planter and add some height with a birdcage or an old window. White candlesticks and small terra-cotta pots with yellow and blue flowers incorporate the essence of spring. Add some depth and visual interest with upside-down flowerpots or small wooden benches.

Summer: Look to the garden. “Summer-ize” a large circular mirror with a hydrangea wreath featuring a combination of colors and some burlap. Coordinate matching garland to have the same look and feel as the hydrangea wreath and then place the same type of candleholder on each side with a color-coordinated candle.

Jill Bauer hosts one of QVC’s popular shows, “You’re Home with Jill®,” and provides fans with simple solutions for their busy lives. You can connect with her on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram @jillbauerqvc.