

Inexpensive Staging Décor

Many sellers get nervous when they are told to neutralize their homes by taking down any personal, religious, political, or controversial accessories and decor. What do they use in place of these items? Their first thought is that they have to go out and spend lots of money on wall art, decor, and accessories. This does not have to be the case at all.

Remember one of the top staging guidelines as you stage your home. **How you live in your home is different from how you sell your home.** Many of us have more accessories and wall art than we need when staging. They are great for when we are living in the space because they show our personality and tell the story of us, the people who live in the home. When selling, we want to do almost the opposite. When we think of the process as a series of steps, we can approach this task with a positive attitude and minimal stress.

1. You will usually have more than enough to use once you pack away some items.

Not everything we own is personal or too style specific to use for staging. After you pack away those items, you will most likely still be left with a good selection of items to choose from and may even have to pack up even more items.

2. You can borrow items from family or friends.

Most of them have so many unused items in their attics, basements, or garages that would work great for staging your home. They may be eager to get rid of some. Some people have too much stuff to display at once or they might like to rotate what they do have. Either way, see if you can borrow their “extras”.

3. Repurpose items you already own.

Do you have any empty frames? Do you have a few that allow you to easily pop out and replace the existing photos? If so, find some new images for them. *Where can you find photos and pictures that would work for staging?*

- Cut out nature photos from magazines or calendars.
- Pull out photos from books that you no longer read and plan on either tossing or donating anyway.
- Find images or pages from books you find at garage sales or frames with great photos already in them.
- Take your own photos, especially those of nature, animals, local landmarks, areas of the neighborhood, or parks.

Search your attic or basement for vases or candle holders that are out of style. Update them with a fresh coat of spray paint. Now you can display flowers and candles.

Find extra throws in other rooms or stored blankets you don't need on a regular basis. Distribute them throughout the home, depending on the colors and materials that look good in each space.

Replace your shower curtain by using a regular curtain for the front and then hang a liner behind the more attractive curtain. You can easily find inexpensive clear or white liners.

You don't need to spend a fortune when finding decor for staging your home. If you aren't coming up with ideas, enlist the help of a family member or friend who is creative or good with DIY projects.