

## No Cost Summer Decorating

The 4th of July has come and gone, but we have lots of summer left to enjoy. Most of us prefer to spend more time outdoors than inside. That doesn't mean you have to put all your decorating projects on hold.

Here are some design quick tips to refresh your home for the summer.

- Take down heavy draperies and hang light-weight sheers or lace panels. They will diffuse the light while offering privacy.
- If privacy isn't an issue, leave your windows bare and welcome in the light and the outdoors.
- Roll up area rugs and store until winter. Bare floors create the look and feel of a summer cottage at the lake.
- Pack away your throws and pillows for the season and replace with fun, bright, summery colors.
- Rearrange your furniture. Create intimate conversational groupings away from the TV. If you have a room with a view, orient the sofa or reading chair toward the outdoors.
- Clean out the fireplace. Create a clean, minimal look by putting the tools and wood away until fall.



- While you are at it, de-clutter your family or living room. Pack away the knick-knacks and photos. Replace with shells or vacation mementos. **Less clutter = easier summer living.**

- Bring in flowers every day. Fresh flowers from the garden not only smell wonderful, but bring a room to life. Treat yourself to flowers; after all, you are worth it!

