

Summer Made Simple

Summer is such a short season and vacations are never long enough. If you don't have a cottage "Up North" to get away to, take advantage of these simple ideas to "summerize" your rooms to get a 'cottage look' at home and maybe extend the season!

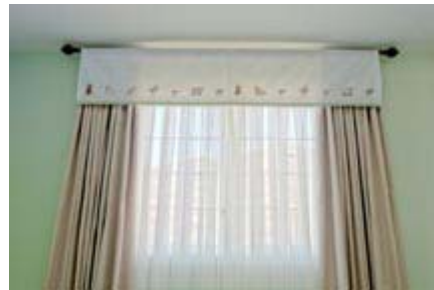
Bedroom

- Put away your heavy quilt or bedspread for the summer.
- Replace your colorful bedding with white sheets and pillowcases.
- White cotton bedding not only looks refreshing, but feels cool.
- Dry bedding on the clothes line for that fresh summer scent.



Windows

- Take down drapery panels or heavy valances.
- Replace with sheer or lace panels that gently billow in the breeze.
- Or, if privacy isn't an issue, leave the windows bare!



Kitchen

- Paper plates are so tempting during the summer, but are hard on the environment and budget. Instead, shop Goodwill for a set of new plates just for the season.
- Choose something completely opposite of your regular everyday dishes. Put some fun back into



- dinner.
- When autumn rolls in, donate them back to Goodwill and get a different set for fall!

Family Room

- Roll up the area rugs. Bare floors feel and look refreshingly cool.
- Lighten up with slipcovers on the sofa and chairs.
- An even easier solution is to make your own with sheets or fabric. Simply drape over the sofa and tuck in and around seat cushions and arms.
- Pack away your accessories. Create a collage of souvenirs from your trips. Arrange the sea shells next to the statue of the Empire State building!
- Get your vacation pictures out of the computer! Look for frames in a variety of sizes and styles at Goodwill. Put your memories on display.



It really is easy to extend the season and “summerize” your home with these simple tips.