

Once the holidays are over and the decorations are stored for another year, how can a homeowner visually warm up a room for the remainder of winter?

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Paint the back of a bookcase in an accent color from the room's color palette. Add a strié technique in a slightly darker shade for dimension. Rearrange items in a new grouping, or move something from another space to the bookshelf for renewed interest. Not only do your favorite things create warmth in your home, but you now have a fresh look.

Cozy up a favorite chair with a new chenille throw and a beautiful footstool. Create a new place to read a book during long winter afternoons. Use an unexpected item, such as beautiful luggage, as an end table to keep a few favorite design magazines nearby.

Rearrange a tabletop. Replace holiday poinsettias with a potted ivy topiary from the local garden center.

Continue by adding an unexpected accessory, a few favorite pieces from a collection, or a framed photo of a memorable moment from a holiday gathering.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PALECEK



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHELSEA HOUSE



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLOBAL VIEWS



PHOTO COURTESY OF HABERSHAM

Clockwise, from far left: Alligator-embossed leather trunks from Palecek are an interesting substitute for a side table; a new accessory such as the West Point urn from Chelsea House will fill a space left when you take down holiday decorations; a cranberry-painted interior livens up a display cabinet from Habersham; octagonal boxes from Global Views are convenient places to sit a drink as well as conversation-starters.