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Page 1 of 2

How to update your home for autumn

Autumn is the season of change, so to make sure you enjoy your indoor and outdoor spaces, here are a few tips

While the weather is still sunny and balmy outside, autumn is a season of change and it's always wise to prep your home before the days get duller and the heavy downpours arrive.

"It's nearly that time again: to update your home and garden for the autumn and winter months. Your home doesn't need to be drab, there are lots of ways to make the interior and garden more cheerful," says Kate Martin, trade service manager at hipages, Australia's go-to app for finding and hiring a tradie.

Find ways to add colour to your interior

Colour has a way of cheering us up and that is especially important in autumn and winter when the skies are grey and we spend more time indoors. It can be easy and inexpensive to add colour to your decor. Buy some colourful cushions or cushion covers and add them to the sofa or bed. Add colourful towels to hang in the bathroom or a flashy rug for the living room or bedroom floor. Choose colours that complement your room's current decor or curtains.

These are inexpensive ways to add colour but you may want to go further and paint the interior for a refresh. If the walls are in good condition and have light colours, think about finding a feature wall and painting it a contrasting colour or you might want to wallpaper a wall. Modern wallpapers comes in a variety of photorealistic patterns and designs and while it doesn't have the texture of a veneer wall, it can look like brick, stone or another material from a distance.

Another way to add colour to the house and make it more cheerful is to buy indoor plants. Indoor plants can have a good effect on your indoor environment and clear the air of toxins, adding health benefits, too. They also help reduce noise levels by absorbing sound and can make the house healthier, happier and quieter.

Give the house a good clean

Another thing to consider is to reduce the amount of clutter in the house. Clutter makes rooms appear smaller and you want the house to feel as

spacious as possible during autumn, and throughout the year. While you're at it, consider giving yourself a treat, and hire a professional house cleaner to make the house ready for the months ahead when you will be spending more time indoors than outdoors.

Have your heaters or reverse-cycle air conditioning checked

The last thing you want when the weather becomes cooler is to have your heater or reverse cycle air conditioning break down or create dust. Early in autumn, is the ideal time to have a specialist look or do a maintenance service on your heater or reverse cycle air conditioning system. Ducted systems can collect dust and having the ducting cleaned will make sure no dust enters the home.

What to do in the garden in autumn?

We think of gardens in the spring, but autumn is the best time in SA to get out in the garden and give it a makeover. Some things to do include

pruning trees and shrubs, mulching, adding fertiliser to the lawn and planting autumn flowering plants, as well as establishing new trees.

Why not add a water feature or firepit? Water features don't have to be large. Many take up little space but will add ambience of your garden. Have a look at your outdoor furniture and if you don't have enough or what you have is worn, treat yourself to some new garden furniture. You will be spending time outdoors if you have a covered patio or that beautiful firepit to keep your guests warm.

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Page 2 of 2

