



WE ALL HAVE THE BEST INTENTIONS FOR NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS, but 9 out of 10 they fall short. This year, why not make resolutions to maintain and even improve your space? Here are 10 resolutions you'll have a really good shot at fulfilling - Happy New Year, here's to creating a beautiful space!

10 NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS for Your Space:

1. ADD DECADENT COMFORT.

What would you love to have? How about a steam shower or a fireplace by your bathtub? Maybe you'd love a TV in the kitchen to cook along with your favorite show, or that gorgeous dining room table you've always wanted. Pick one and go for it.

2. SCHEDULE YOUR HOME.

We are all pressed for time these days, and our homes are really starting to show it. Set up a schedule to ensure certain tasks will get done and that you are well prepared in advance.

3. GO GREEN.

Take a look at your appliances, water and cleaning agent. Can you replace old with new more efficient ones? You may want to take a look a shower heads, toilets to help save on water. Replace harsh chemicals with earth and air friendly cleaning products.

4. PLANT & BEAUTIFY.

Add a new flowerbed or a unique planter. Add a water garden or a get that gorgeous stone bench for under the tree in the back yard. Simple ideas to revitalize your yard and make it more inviting.



5. TECH UPDATE.

Go wireless, or have a technology expert give your home a quick review. Add new features like a home music system, or movie organizer. Mount your TV sound surround system instead of having speakers stacked every where. For the tech expert, try Systems at 780-434-6666.

6. GOOD CLEANING. Both inside and out - it's amazing how good you feel when your home is clean and organized. Hire a cleaning company to pressure wash the roof, siding, windows, driveway, porches and walk-ways. Grout on your tile floors dirty? Hire a flooring company to come in and clean and re-seal it. Don't forget your ducts and carpets - have them steam cleaned too!

7. TAME THE GARAGE. I've found with garages they are either sparse and well organized, or completely out of control! If your the later, edit out all the old and organize the must keeps. Don't forget to pressure wash the cement pad of all that winter muck.

8. ENERGY AUDIT. Reduce your energy bills and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by improving your home's insulation, and inspect your gas fireplace to ensure it is clean and working properly. You can save 30% on your energy bills just by improving your insulation. Check your local area for inspectors that offer energy audits in your area, or call the City of Edmonton at 311 to see if they are offering any rebate programs.

9. ITS ALL IN THE DETAILS. Adding small touches, or making simple changes can have a big affect on the impression of a room. From a fresh bouquet of flowers, to a gorgeous new colourful vase, crown moulding or framing out a builders bathroom mirror can have huge impact with minimal cost and effort.

10. REFRESH. What do you need to do - replace old worn furniture, update light fixtures? Try a new area rug or purchase a piece of wall art. Tie in your colours from that new purchase with accessories and toss cushions. Don't forget wallpaper - has huge impact on refreshing any space.



Resolve to make your living space more enjoyable and to better reflect your style. Gone are the days of boring brown and gray - add colour, even a little for texture and whimsy. It's a new years resolution that will benefit your entire family.

Photos shown are compiled for a steam punk scheme, items are from Chintz and Currey and Co., wall paper is a custom design.

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As an interior design professional, I follow fashion, the economy, local and international events to bring you my professional opinion of what is current and innovative in the world of interior design. Join me each month where I hope to inspire you in making your home the very best it can be.

MARIE HEBSON'S **interiorsBYDESIGNinc.** is a full service design studio based out of Edmonton, Alberta. No stranger to design, Marie has a degree in both graphic and interiors.

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