

Creative Changeover

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Decorating – Suzanne Robson



Transforming a bedroom into a haven you have always dreamed of won't require an Oprah-esque budget, say design experts.

Keeping costs down isn't difficult if you think creatively, are prepared to use a little elbow grease and make time to explore furniture shops, second-hand stores and markets.

Interior designer Michelle Fieldsend, from A Fresh Touch, said a cost effective way to revamp a bedroom was to accentuate personal collections and favourite items with complementary and inexpensive accessories.

“It is good to have an idea of what theme you want, for me it is an Indian/Moroccan feel but you might live by the water and want a beachy theme,” Ms Fieldsend said.

“If you are not confident with decorating, then perhaps go for white bed linen, because then you can dress it up seasonally,” she said. “In winter, you could choose a lovely fluffy mohair throw with chunkier cushions and warmer colours and come summer you could throw a sari or a Balinese sarong at the end of the bed.”

The designer said decorators could create a completely fresh look by cleaning, decluttering and applying a fresh coat of paint.

Designer and illustrator Lucy King, who has decorated her home with unique second-hand and recycled finds, said mixing new and older items created an interesting and eclectic look.

“There is a current revival for using old and vintage fabrics and bed linen; think pretty vintage floral pillowcases to contrast plain white quilt covers to brighten up the bedroom,” she said. “Crocheted blankets with their bright multi-coloured granny squares are prevalent in second-hand shops, and are a great way to add some colour, pattern and warmth.

She recommended scouring the Camberwell Market for furniture and fabrics.