



GET YOUR HOME READY FOR WINTER

Interior designer, property guru and City Dweller Magazine columnist
Christine Yorath is preparing for the winter months.



We are all noticing how quickly the darker nights are starting and within a few weeks it will be dark by late afternoon.

Autumn and winter bring with them thoughts of cosy evenings in and comfort food and entertaining friends in our

homes always seems more relevant in the winter months.

There are lots of simple ways to create a cosy feeling in your home and even if you don't have a fireplace you can still benefit from the lovely feeling of a flickering flame by using a bioethanol fuel fire.

There is now a fantastic choice of fires fuelled by bioethanol. Bioethanol is produced from sustainable raw materials and burns without any ash, soot or smoke. So there are no clouds of smoke or flying sparks to spoil theatmosphere.

Candles are another great way of creating a warm cosy ambience in a home but they do come with obvious risks and are sometimes forbidden in tenanted properties and in small rooms regular use can create sooty marks on walls and battery operated candles can be a substitute but until

recently I would have said they are a poor substitute.

That is until I saw some fantastic ones in David Share gift shop at 58 Street Lane in Leeds which are really worth going to have a look at as unfortunately the images just do not do them justice. They are not cheap but are an excellent alternative to real candles. They are operated by 2 x AA batteries (burn time 120 hours) and are an elegant wax candle with a unique and unbelievably realistic flame. Enjoy the ambience and glow of candlelight without the risk of fire or damage. There is a sleep function on the candles along with an optional remote control (£9.95).

So you are having a cosy night in the candles are lit the hot chocolate is made you're cuddled up on the sofa to watch the TV, what would be nicer and then wrapping a

fur throw around you? Many department stores sell these now across a huge price range and this is one of those luxury items were generally you do get what you pay for and to my mind bigger is better!

Ok now the candles are lit you're snuggled up in your fur throw and you have a favourite film on tv and you want to put your feet up so how about an increasingly popular and stylish ottoman? The beauty of these over a coffee table is that they are dual purpose serving as a foot rest but simply by popping a tray answer them you have a replacement for a coffee table.

Finally a quick and easy way to cosy up a living room or bedroom for winter is to change accessories cushions and bedlinens to items with a warm toned colour.

So as I write this in a rainy cloudy dark late afternoon The climate is setting the scene perfectly! Wishing you a cosy Winter!

For more advice go to www.christineyorath.com or get in touch by emailing christine@yorathgroup.com or ringing 07836 737300.

*Till next time,
Christine*

