

## 13 DIY Dollarwise Decorating Tips to Make Your Bedroom Cozy for Winter

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Blustery snowstorms and icy streets may be harshly upon us, but if you make your master bedroom a cozy comforting retreat, you'll feel warmer *inside and out* in no time!

### Here's how:

1. Clear the clutter and get organized *before* you do anything else because clutter feels choking to your body and spirit! Donate it, recycle it, or trash it.
2. Wash any linens, curtains, and clean your carpet or floors so you start with a pristine and serene space.
3. If you're on a tight budget, before buying anything new, do what you creatively can with what you already have on hand, *and* with the size and shape of the room you actually have, (rather than the room or house you long for.)
4. Invest first in portable items just in case you have to move. You can easily take linens, photo frames, and furniture with you to a new space to *quickly* re-create the same cozy feeling for yourself if you are someone who moves frequently, so invest the most in move-able items vs. in the actual room itself.
5. Now assess your room and decide what feels "cozy" to YOU. Make a list. If you have a mate, do this exercise together so you are both comfortable with *the feeling* you are creating. i.e. Do you want your room to feel comforting-cozy like when you stayed as a child at your grandma's farmhouse? Then you might want a quilt. Like when you stayed at a favorite Bed & Breakfast inn? Then add a thick and sumptuous coverlet in a pretty color. Do you want to feel like you're overlooking a rose garden from a garden you toured in Europe? Then buy floral linens. Like your favorite little but sumptuous hotel room in Paris or London? Look back on your photos of your trip and re-create the look in color and linens. Tap your memory bank of *personal experiences* you can bring into your room.
6. Think of your senses when it comes to fabrics. Invest in organic bed linens if possible as they are softer, and better for your health too. Target has affordable 300 thread count sheets that are great and Peacock Alley has washable matelassé coverlets at Tuesday Morning for under \$100. Layer several coverlets for a cozy and warm feeling.
7. Give yourself permission to use YOUR favorite colors. i.e. cream, white, neutrals, light pinks, soft greens and muted blues create a calming cozy feeling but opulent colors like deep purple, gold, and burgundy red also work very nicely in creating a "jewel box" sumptuous feeling, especially in a small space. And jewel colors are especially nice for adding winter coziness due to their deep rich colors. If YOU like a color, *use it*.

8. Put low-watt bulbs in your bedside lamps, a dimmer switch on your overhead lighting, and place flameless candles in pretty glass candleholders around the room.
9. Use soft faux fur throws on the foot of your bed for warmth, softness, color and “instant cozy.” Walmart.com, Pier 1, and Tuesday Morning usually have nice quality throws if you shop wisely.
10. Hang or place photos in the room that have meaning to you of happy times in your life.
11. A wool flokati rug, or faux fur bearskin rug feels cozy to cold feet in the winter. You can find them online, even at Walmart.com.
12. Stock your nightstands with your favorite comfort items: massage oil in a pretty lotion pump dispenser, quality essential oils that invoke sleep, fresh flowers, your favorite comfort picture books, devotional readings, and a pretty tray to hold your coffee, tea, or hot chocolate.
13. And last but not least, invest in YOU to feel cozy in your bedroom too. Buy yourself a pretty new robe, nightgown, and slippers for chilly winter nights *and* buy your husband a new flannel robe and PJs in a handsome print. You can even choose colors that coordinate with your linens and/or bedroom theme.

In short, add whatever feels comforting to YOU to your room. If you like it, it’s fine because it’s YOUR room and you *should* feel cozy in your own room on cold winter nights.

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