



NEW YEAR, NEW ROOM

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If you're feeling uninspired and looking for a change, redecorating your room might be the first step to making the most of this year. Tackling such a huge makeover may seem like a daunting task but I can assure you that with a little bit of time, patience, and elbow grease, you can turn your room into the sanctuary you've always desired, without making a hole in your pocket.

DECLUTTER AND REORGANISE

It sounds redundant but the first step to redoing your room is to let things go. Even if it's a poster that's always been there with you or the notes you hung up on your walls thinking that you'll need it one day, getting rid of stuff that you no longer use will make your room clutter-free.

Rearrange your furniture. Considering the layout of your room, find the alignment that will make your room more spacious. My trick is to draw the room's layout and to keep fine-tuning until I find the appropriate focal point. You can select your focal point and build around it or switch things up accordingly. There are pretty good apps like MagicPlan, Planner 5D, Amikasa, etc. that can help you visualize your arrangements virtually.



PAINT, PAINT, PAINT

There is nothing more effective in making a statement than dressing your walls in a fresh coat of paint. Using a 1L can of emulsion paint can cover two walls if watered down. These paint cans come in fairly cheap. Emulsion paints of 1L range from 220 to 300 taka and can be found at your

local hardware store. You can save loads of money by doing the paint job yourself. Make sure to prep and prime your walls before getting to the actual painting. If you have brushes and rollers lying around then that's a plus. Investing in good paint supplies will help you finish the job with ease in the long run. Do try to create an accent wall. The easiest way to create an accent wall is to paint it a shade of a different value or by doing beautiful wall art.

Not just walls, but a can of paint does wonders in upcycling existing items. If you have a stodgy steel wardrobe or an old wooden table that doesn't go with your aesthetic, you can make it chic by only using a few cans of spray paint. A can of spray paint retails from about 150 taka. Old wooden furniture can be given a new life by using wood stain which is readily available in stores.

If painting seems too toilsome, you can opt for wallpapers. Self-adhesive wallpapers range from 40 taka per square feet to 2000 taka for a big roll. No matter which route you choose, make sure to follow a colour scheme so that your room looks put together.

LIGHTEN AND BEDIZEN

There is no alternative to good lighting in

creating an ambiance. Curtains play a big part in setting the mood of a room. If you have money to spend, you can go ham on replacing your old drapes. Plain monochrome curtains are available for very little money. If your room doesn't get enough natural sunlight, you can add small lamps and fairy lights to bring that extra oomph. LED strip-lights and fairy lights are very affordable if you buy them from retail stores rather than online shops.

Candles, mirrors, pillows, potted plants, and shelves add pizzazz to any bland room. The internet is brimming with fun DIY projects that help you find the best renovation ideas for little to no money at all. A big makeover can be done even if you have a 500 taka budget but you must be clever in deciding what you want to spend on. However, a 2000 taka budget or more will let you play with a lot more options while leaving you additional choices to spare.

Who said you need to spend a fortune on revamping your room? With a little effort and help from the internet, anyone can learn anything. Look around you and get inspired!

The writer's crafting obsession is getting out of hand. Talk some sense into her at farnazfawadhasan@gmail.com