



Living



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SHOPPING ()

3 Designers Share How They'd Spend \$250 (or Less) to Decorate Your Entryway

By [Lambeth Hochwald](https://www.realtor.com/author/lambeth-hochwald/) (https://www.realtor.com/author/lambeth-hochwald/)
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Your entryway (or foyer, if you're feeling fancy) is the first place everyone sees in your (possibly brand new!) home. While it's definitely a functional space where you drop your keys and pull off your boots, it's also so much more than that. It's a chance to make a warm, inviting, and—dare we say bold?—statement.

That said, if your entry is feeling less than hospitable—or maybe just a bit blah—consider this: You don't have to spend a fortune to transform it into a reflection of your personality and style. Read on as three designers share how they'd spend \$250 (or less) to enhance any entryway space.

If your entryway doesn't have storage, but needs it: Spruce up an IKEA storage piece.

If storage of some kind is a must, but your current space is currently storage-less, consider anchoring your foyer with a practical (and affordable) storage piece. [Leslie Lehr](https://leslielehrliving.com/) (https://leslielehrliving.com/), an interior designer in Phoenix, suggests this [KOPPANG 3-Drawer Chest](https://sovrn.co/1npan9t) (https://sovrn.co/1npan9t) from IKEA. "It offers great storage

and the design is timeless," she says.



If the chest is a bit too timeless (read: simple) for your taste, spruce it up. Lehr recommends [this overlay kit](https://sovrn.co/1ao6h5f) (https://sovrn.co/1ao6h5f), made specifically for the KOPPANG 3-Drawer Chest. Each kit includes four decorative panels, which you can paint whatever color you choose. "This little touch will transform an affordable chest into a fabulous showstopper," she says.

Shopping list:

- [KOPPANG 3-Drawer Chest](https://sovrn.co/1npan9t) (https://sovrn.co/1npan9t), \$100 at IKEA
- [Pippa Malm #2 Kit](https://sovrn.co/1ao6h5f) (https://sovrn.co/1ao6h5f), \$48 at O'verlays
- [Dirty Martini Semi-Gloss Paint](https://sovrn.co/1imvfv9) (https://sovrn.co/1imvfv9), \$24 per quart at Clare

Total: \$172

If your entryway is dark and dated: Invest in a light fixture (or two).

"There's nothing worse than walking into a space that feels dark and cave-like!" says Brittany Tharp, owner and principal designer at [Brittany Tharp Interiors](https://www.brittanytharpinteriors.com/) (https://www.brittanytharpinteriors.com/). Luckily, swapping out the existing ceiling fixture for something new is a relatively easy fix—something you can probably do yourself.

Even if you have to hire an electrician, [this semi-flush mount light](https://sovrn.co/yzqzt69) (https://sovrn.co/yzqzt69), which comes in several different finishes, including brass and antique gold, leaves wiggle room in the budget for an additional layer of lighting.

Tharp suggests a [table lamp](https://sovrn.co/16jhsac) (https://sovrn.co/16jhsac) on a [console table](https://sovrn.co/iggd8j2) (https://sovrn.co/iggd8j2). A floor lamp could work too, but she warns: "Just make sure you don't have a single floor lamp shoved in a corner as this will draw attention to the fact that you don't have enough overhead lighting."

Shopping list:

- [3-Light 14-in Incandescent Semi-flush Mount Light](https://sovrn.co/yzqzt69) (https://sovrn.co/yzqzt69), \$89 at Lowe's
- [Dedrek Metal Table Lamp](https://sovrn.co/16jhsac) (https://sovrn.co/16jhsac), \$52 at Wayfair

- [Wood and Metal Console Table \(https://sovrn.co/iggd8j2\)](https://sovrn.co/iggd8j2), \$50 at Target

Total: \$191

If your entryway is less of an entryway and more of a wall: Invest in a mirror.

Gina Caulkins, founder of [California Daydreams \(https://www.californiadaydreams.com/\)](https://www.californiadaydreams.com/), universally recommends investing in a mirror but especially for spaces that are small and may not have a ton of natural light. Not only does an entryway mirror give you the opportunity to check your teeth before answering the door, it also brings a sense of style and some (often much-needed) light.

But which mirror to choose? Caulkins recommends choosing a mirror that compliments but doesn't match the rest of the space. "If there isn't a lot of texture in the space, I like a mirror with a woven detail around it," Caulkins says. She also adds that she often looks "for mirrors with a frame that's in a different finish from the door handle or other hardware nearby to create visual interest."

Above all, she says, skip the full-length mirror in the foyer. "This is especially important if you have little kids," she says. "Just think of the fingerprints that you'll spend so much time cleaning off!"

Shopping list:



- [Infinity Black Round Wall Mirror \(https://sovrn.co/1z0bplt\)](https://sovrn.co/1z0bplt), \$249 at CB2
- [Acacia Wood Round Wall Mirror \(https://sovrn.co/kb335w6\)](https://sovrn.co/kb335w6), \$199 at CB2
- [Aranya Arch Mirror \(https://sovrn.co/1d91bfl\)](https://sovrn.co/1d91bfl), \$215 at Burke Decor

Total: \$199-\$249

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