



## How To Create A Cozy Nook To Bring Warmth To Winter Chills

by Jill Vegas  
Jill Vegas LLC

“Let us love winter, for it is the spring of genius.”—Pietro Aretino

“Winter is the time of promise because there is so little to do or because you can now and then permit yourself the luxury of thinking so.” —Stanley Crawford

It’s January in Gotham and the air looks and feels like ice. But the thaw is on: Since the winter solstice—the shortest day of the year—fell on Dec. 22, we are on the bright side of the calendar trend. Days are short but will get longer. Still, the frigid air and dark afternoons drive us indoors for cozy meals and reading books by the fire (or watching TV with our hunnies).

Whether you are selling your home or just want to make it more cheery for long winter nights, there are a host of things you can do to bring light and life into your home.

Mirrors are great for brightening a dark room. Pick out a mirror you love, big ones are nice, and stick it in a dreary corner. This will immediately brighten your space. Mirrors are great also for adding sparkle to shelves and furniture. Take that musty wooden bookshelf sitting sadly by the wall. Brighten it by placing reflective objects on it, like a mirrored sphere, bright metal sculpture, or a mirror. Make sure your mirror reflects a nice image back into the room: a flower arrangement, twinkling candlelight, or silk curtains. You can find some nice mirrors online at simply mirrors.com (<http://mirrors.com>).

Another idea is to create a reading nook, for stormy Saturday afternoons when you want to curl under a blanket and read the day away. To do this, first pick a neglected corner of your apartment and visualize how to make it a comfy retreat.

One method is to throw a few large floor pillows onto a fuzzy white rug. Stack some books nearby that you’ve been dying to read for years while they sat lonely on your shelf. And of course, add a lamp of your liking. Voila! You’ve got a stylish, cozy reading retreat.

If you are looking for books to bring to your new spot, here’s a few of my favorites: *The End of the Affair* by Graham Greene; *The Lover* by Marguerite Duras; and *Tender Buttons* by Gertrude Stein.

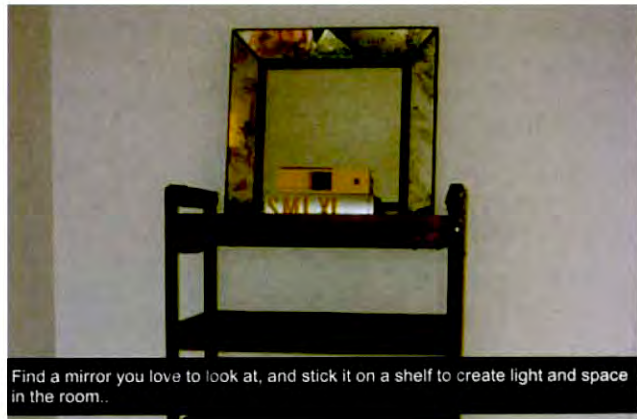
You can add to the fun by stacking some records and a turntable at your nook. Pick out some tunes that will take you back to the good old days, when things moved more slowly. Cozy is the idea here.

Another nice way to create a relaxing nook is to place a chaise lounge near a bright window. In our nook (pictured), we added a side table and stacked records and books on it. Add a cool desk lamp and you have the perfect illumination for your favorite hardcover. In this case, the lamp is polished nickel; which, like the mirror, will brighten up the room with its reflective surface.

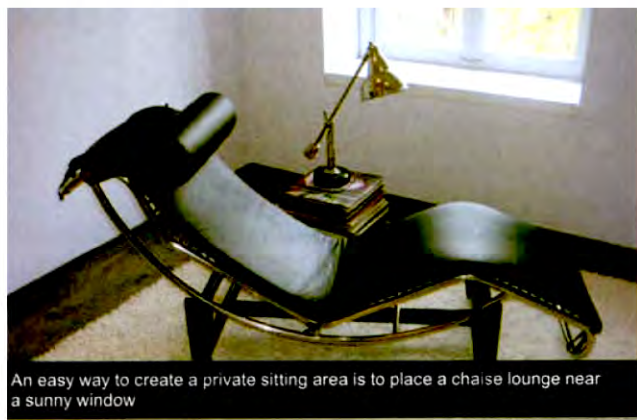
Now that you have your calm retreat, make sure to grab a book and cozy in with a cup of hot chocolate. Longer days are on the horizon!



Throw some pillows on the floor, over a fuzzy rug, near a bright window, and presto: you have a darling sitting nook.



Find a mirror you love to look at, and stick it on a shelf to create light and space in the room..



An easy way to create a private sitting area is to place a chaise lounge near a sunny window

Jill Vegas  
Jill Vegas LLC  
Founded in 2004  
Tel: 212-627-9402  
[jill@jillvegas.com](mailto:jill@jillvegas.com)  
[www.jillvegas.com](http://www.jillvegas.com)