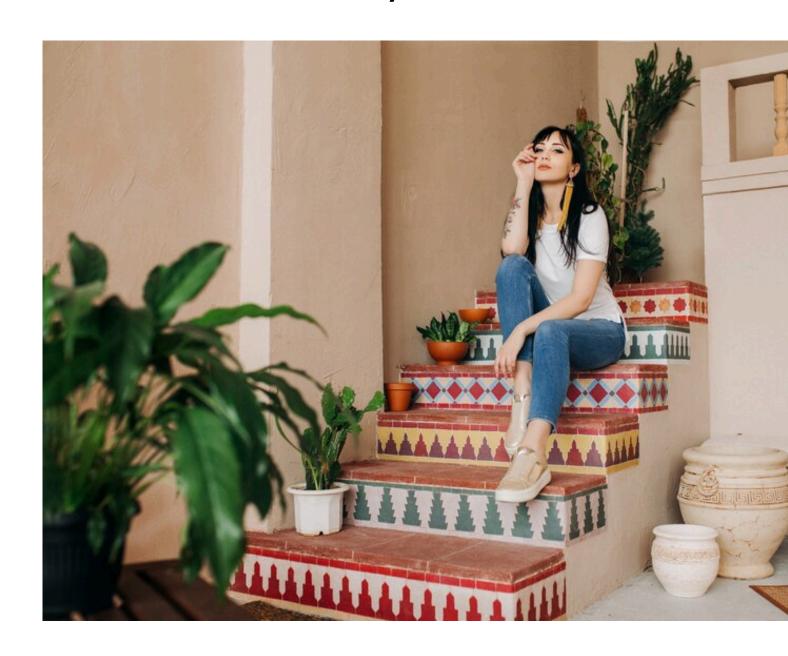


Integrating Delicate Items with Style



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Abstract

The art of decorating a home in Adelaide combines the city's unique charm with personal style. Emphasize local elements like natural materials and coastal colors to reflect the stunning surroundings. Incorporate antique pieces from local markets and art from Adelaide's vibrant scene. Balance modern aesthetics with historical influences to create a harmonious and inviting living space.

1. Introduction

Decorating with delicate items in Adelaide requires a refined touch and a keen eye for detail. This guide explores how to seamlessly integrate fragile collectibles, fine art, and heirloom pieces into your home décor in Adelaide. From selecting the perfect display locations to maintaining their pristine condition, we'll provide tips and techniques to create a stylish and sophisticated living space that highlights your treasured items.

2. Things Your Home Décor Reveals About Your Personality

When you get dressed in the morning, your outfit can reveal a lot about not only your personality but your current mood and schedule for the day. Your home, however, is a more consistent reflection of you, or at least it should be. Three experts in the field of style and interior design from Adelaide tell us what your home decor choices reveal about you.

Personal artifacts on display mean you have a strong sense of self

One of the first things people notice about your space when they walk in is how much of you is incorporated into the decor. "I think a space has to have personality and it has to tell your story," says Carson Kressley, who rejoins original Queer Eye co-star Thom Filicia for Bravo's new design show Get a Room with Carson & Thom, premiering October 19. "It's shocking that many people, even those who are very chic in how they dress, can have a very safe space at home that doesn't have a lot of personality."

If your desk is busy, you're going places

In a perfect world, many of us would like to have one of those pristine workspaces where there's a place for everything and everything in its place. But Filicia, who works with Kressley to revamp client's spaces on Get a Room, admits that makes him a little nervous.

High-polished trends mean you have goals

Aspirational decor may look beautiful, but if they have little to do with your actual lifestyle, it may mean you're dissatisfied about your current situation. "It's like someone who has an equestrian-themed living room and they've never been on a horse," says Filicia. "Those spaces don't feel authentic and a lot of times people don't really use them. They'll look in and say, 'Isn't that beautiful? Someday I'll be that person, but until then I'll hang out in the basement.'"



Lots of family photos lend to a nostalgic personality

Whitney Leigh Morris, author of Small Space Style: Because You Don't Have to Live Large to Live Beautifully and creator of the blog The Tiny Canal Cottage, notices immediately when she walks into a space boasting a lot of family photos. "I think it's really interesting to see if you're nostalgic and find comfort in looking back or if you take more comfort in creating these memories and look forward to human interaction," she says, noting that preserving memories isn't a negative thing, simply indicative of one's preferences.

Smaller vignettes in your home may mean you're an introvert

Morris, who asserts that there are so many factors involved in designing a space, points to the idea that creating cozy corners in the home may mean you prefer the quiet life. "Perhaps an introvert might sit reading a book in a nook in their living room," she says.

A well-made sofa shows you make smart investments

Accessories may make a room sing, but Kressley recommends spending your money on the pieces that anchor a room, like a quality sofa for a living space, bed in the bedroom (speaking of, what's a smarter choice than a tufted headboard?), and dining table for the dining room. "That's like a little black dress for a woman or a great suit for a man," he says. "Those are the things you're going to use over and over."

Alternative ways to decorate walls show you welcome change

"If you have more gallery style walls or boards with clips or twine to hang pictures, artwork, or things created by your kids, that means you're comfortable switching up your home all of the time," says Morris. "You're inspired by change and welcoming of change when it comes to you and your family."

Fine art indicates you're business savvy

Investing in high-end fine art can make many amateur decorates squirm. Not only is there a concern about the financial investment, but also the responsibility of caring for an original creation. "For people who are really entrenched in the art collecting world, investing in a piece of high-end original artwork doesn't have to feel like a lifelong investment, because they're savvy with buying and selling," says Morris.

Renters with a penchant for design are eager to nest

In a time when renters in Adelaide are growing in numbers, it's easy to fall into a trap where you leave your home looking and feeling like a temporary space because you don't own it. But Filicia points out that renters who put a little elbow grease into their homes show commitment. "I know people who are in rentals who are putting contact paper in their kitchen cabinets and have flavor paper on their walls that can come down very easily," he says. "You can tell that person is desperate to nest but maybe they're just not at that stage yet for home ownership."

A bare space could mean a fear of commitment

Maybe you're indecisive and fear making an expensive design mistake, or maybe, just maybe, you're a bit of a commitment-phobe. "It wouldn't be surprising to me that those people aren't committing to sofas or artwork or decorative pillows because they haven't planted roots yet," says Filicia. "Maybe they never will or maybe they haven't found the right scenario but I think that tells you a lot about a person."

Your living room furniture arrangement speaks to how social you are

Configuring the furniture in your living room can feel like a math problem that's impossible to solve. But if your instinct is to face sofas and chairs in a way that easily allows people to chat, it indicates you lean towards a more social nature. "Is your living room set up in a way that sparks conversation as opposed to focusing on some other kind of entertainment, like a TV?" asks Morris. "That's one of the first things I notice in a home.

A mix of vintage pieces and sustainable materials means you're grounded

Whether it's due to budget constraints or an eye towards sustainability, repurposing previously loved items and working with organic materials tells a visitor about your practicality and grounded nature. "Are you interested in eco-friendly decor tactics?" asks Morris. "In that case, you'll probably have more vintage pieces or you'll have pieces that are made from sustainable materials and practices."

3. Home Decor Items You Should Always Shop at Thrift Stores

Thrifting is always an excellent way to score unique home goods at a fraction of the retail price. If you're looking to explore the thrift store this year, keep reading for a roundup of the best types of items to look for as you shop, according to secondhand fanatics. As you browse, keep in mind that there are so many ways to creatively transform pieces into newfound objects, too. "If you're into DIY, think of what the item could be," Kapris Castillo, of The Building Castillos, says. "Sometimes it takes a good cleaning, a new paint color, or using it as something new to make it special and your own. I've been known to use wooden bed risers as candle holders!"



Feeling extra motivated to shop for some thrifted goodness? Here's what you should look out for at your local store.

Candlesticks

Makenzie Ervin, of Kenzie Marie Home, likes to shop for brass candlesticks when thrifting. Note that even more tarnished pieces can be given new life with a bit of TLC. "One thing I keep in mind is that brass has a natural patina and it can almost always be cleaned up with Brasso or other brass polish," Ervin says. Castillo is a big fan of all things brass and it's something she often searches for at thrift stores. "A small brass accent can change the decor in any space."

Books

Shopping for books shouldn't wreck your budget. The thrift store can be a great place to go to purchase books for both entertainment and decor purposes. "Even with Etsy and all the discount book sites out there, finding pretty hardbacks in a specific color can still be an expensive endeavor," Kate Dreyer, of Kate Decorates, says. "That's why I always spend time in the book section of all the thrift stores I go to, taking the jackets off to see if the binding is the color I'm looking for." As Dreyer notes, thrift store books often run just a couple of dollars each.

Glassware

There's no need to shell out for wine glasses that run \$10 a pop when you can score a chic set for just a few dollars total. "Crystal and cut-glass coupes, tumblers, and wine stems are other biggies for me," Amy Hughes, a stylist and owner of Maplewood Mercantile, says. "The aisles are full of it—and prices start at about \$0.50 a glass!" Hughes offers a helpful tip to ensure you're not bringing home a damaged piece. "Check for chips by gently running a finger along the rim and base of the glass," she suggests. "I've yet to cut myself and I've been doing this for years."

When shopping for glassware, keep in mind that it's helpful to snag an extra glass or two, just in case. "Look for complete sets of four, six, eight, or more," Hughes says. "But be sure to grab that matching straggler as insurance against future breakage."

Wooden Bowls

Castillo always finds herself gravitating toward wooden dining accessories at the thrift store. "The cost of anything that is wood is so high that if I see it at a thrift store, it's immediately placed in my cart," she says. "I always find large wooden bowls, trays, and salad bowls."

Furniture

One of Ervin's go-to thrift store items is solid wood furniture. Even a slightly worn piece can have tons of potential. "I keep in mind that the paint and stain can always be changed, but if the structure is substantial, it is a great piece," Ervin says. "I definitely give my furniture flips a good wipe down and cleaning before I bring them inside, and of course sanding also takes off any gunk that may be on the piece."

Serena Appiah, of Thrift Diving, likes to look for wood furniture as well as metal cabinets when thrifting. "When shopping for wood furniture, look for pieces that are heavy, which is more likely to be true for pieces made of solid wood instead of cheaper particle board," she says. "You can also tell quality from junk by looking at the joinery of drawers. If they are constructed with dovetails, it's a good quality piece of furniture."

Tip

When shopping for furniture of any kind, be sure to examine it closely before bringing it home: check for bugs or any damage that might affect the piece's longevity. "Bring a flashlight with you when shopping and look for red or black colored stains on the furniture, particularly in crevices, the backside, seams, or on wood frames," Castillo suggests. Sarah Hidalgo, of Her Story Retold, also has helpful advice for searching for bugs in your thrift furniture: "Steam cleaning or vacuuming will only remove surface bugs; they can burrow deep into the upholstery, so always check every crack and crevice and look for the signs on the fabric."

Vases

Vases are another of Castillo's favorite items to source while thrifting. "Thrift stores are packed with vases, and you'd be surprised at the ones you could find and pay little money for," she says. The same goes for jars and canisters, too.

Artwork and Frames

Unique artwork doesn't have to cost a pretty penny. "Big Box stores sell mass-produced artwork that thousands of people have in their homes," Hidalgo says. "Thrift stores are filled with original and one-of-a-kind pieces. Unique art is always a conversation piece when friends and family come over, too."

Don't hesitate to buy a piece with a frame that needs a little love—you can easily give it a quick upgrade at home. "It only takes a few minutes to clean the frame up," Castillo says. "Feel free to use paint and a brush to flex your painting skills and add colors to your art that suits your style."

Baskets

From wicker to bamboo and cloth to wire, the options for baskets as decor are limitless. and so are the uses. If you're looking for a place to put blankets, pet toys, magazines, or even use as a planter, you can never go wrong with thrifting a basket. Just make sure to trim and tuck away parts that may have broken if the basket is a delicate material.



Figurines

Figurines can be repurposed as decor or added to other items in your house to make them functional. Perhaps you need bookends, candlesticks, a jewelry holder, or a paperweight atop a stack of books. a quick coat of black, white, or metallic spray paint will give new life to a figurine that may not have been to your taste.

China

Whether you need a new set or are looking for something to display in your kitchen, don't sleep on thrifting dishes and tea cups. Oftentimes you'll find unique patterns such as gold-rimmed and toile or a clean white ceramic style. Brands such as Spode and Lenox can also be hiding out, waiting to be collected for your china cabinet.

Lamps

Second-hand lamps are an affordable, unique touch to add to a space. Keep the focus on the base style of the lamp as you can easily switch out a shade. You might want to have the electrical wire tested to make sure the lamp is safe for lighting and up to current standards.

Mirrors

Mirrors are a great way to open up a space and add natural light to a room, especially if it is on the smaller side. If you don't intend to be able to look in a mirror, opt to make it decor by applying several different solutions to antique it. Larger mirrors can cost hundreds even thousands of dollars, so thrifting a piece that is several feet tall will be a huge steal.

Trays

If you're looking to enhance your coffee table or ottoman, consider a tray. Thrift stores are often home to uniquely hand-painted or hand-carved trays that can hold candles, books, plants, or small plants.

Linens

Table linens can elevate your design aesthetic with color and pattern. If you come across a fabric in the thrift store, consider using it as a table runner, napkins, pillow cover, or use it to upholster a chair.

Seasonal decor

You never know what holiday decor can show up after a good spring cleaning. If you are a collector of Christmas villages, antique candelabras, anything biblical, or have been waiting for vintage finds, a thrift store might be your best bet. The best part is that you can get these once expensive items at a huge discount, and can repurpose them to fit with your more modern decorative style.

4. Blob Mirrors Are the Asymmetrical Accent You're About to See Everywhere

These playful accents bring a fresh, young aesthetic to a room.

Maximalism continues to trend, in every corner of every room—and in 2024, mirrors are getting more playful and exuberant. Along with opening up a space and adding dimension to a room (perfect for brightening dark winter days) the asymmetrical blob mirror automatically makes any space feel more whimsical.

Although the blob mirror name doesn't exude glamor, this free-form mirror can tie your maximalist room together with minimal effort.

If you want to try this sleek style, read on for tips on adding this unique accessory to your home.

What is a blob mirror?

Blob mirrors come in an array of shapes and sizes, but the one defining characteristic is that the mirror has an asymmetrical design and an organic-feeling shape.

Many blob mirrors are frameless or finished with narrow metal edging, giving them a casual and more modern look than traditional mirrors.

Why are blob mirrors suddenly everywhere?

A blob mirror's freeform shape feels playful, signaling the owner doesn't take themselves or typical design norms too seriously. This trend is especially popular with Gen Z, who are shaping their own world away from the conventional rules—in employment, relationships, and decor.

Introducing a Blob Mirror to Your Space

Generally, blob mirrors lend themselves most naturally to modern spaces and casual environments. Their curvy silhouettes echo the lines of contemporary furniture design, so they seamlessly fit into this kind of style.

In a modern home, place a blob mirror anywhere you typically would put a traditional mirror or where you want to bounce extra light. These mirrors can instantly transform a bathroom when placed over the vanity. Hang a full-length blob mirror in your entryway, where it's practical for last-minute outfit checks on the way out the door and an immediate stylish statement for anyone who enters. You could even create a cluster of a few slightly different blob mirrors as a dynamic art piece.



Just because the origin of this trend is modern doesn't mean you can't use an asymmetrical mirror in a traditional or vintage-inspired home. A blob mirror makes for a playful piece in a child's room or in a casual area like a rec room, where it signals you've stepped away from the formal living spaces and can relax a bit.

You can also use it to make a room feel more eclectic: adding a large blob mirror somewhere prominent, like above a fireplace in an otherwise traditional room. Merging two styles of decor provides a bridge between classic and contemporary design, one of the biggest trends to watch for 2024.

However you try out these atypical mirrors in your home, their captivating shapes are sure to be conversation starters for all who step inside.

5. Decor Trends To Look Out For This Year

It's that time again when industry professionals offer their predictions on how home design will shift in the new year ahead. As people continue to evaluate how their homes should serve them, there's a noticeable shift from the more popular interior styles that have dominated social media since the early days of COVID-19.

How Is Decor Changing in 2024?

"Homeowners are taking more risks on design and are incorporating colors, textures, different types of stones and an overall richness to their home designs," Anna Karp, co-founder and CEO of design-build firm Bolster, told Forbes Home.

The expert consensus is that people aren't afraid to go bold in their homes as long as their choices create a warm and inviting feel. Design pros also expert homeowners to blend design influences to create eclectic styles of their own. Here are interior designers' top trend 2024 interior design picks.

2024 Decor Trends to Be Excited About

1. Herringbone Floors

Herringbone patterned wood flooring has been a mainstay of higher-end homes, and it's now moving into the mainstream. "It's more labor-intensive and it used to be high-end, but now everybody and their grandmother wants to have herringbone in their homes because it's beautiful," says Karp.

For those on a stricter budget, some laminate flooring brands now offer some herringboned-patterns products that offer increased durability and less maintenance.

2. A Kind of Blue

From Robin's egg to deep blue teal, blue is back and blank next year's paint color predictions. Its versatility is its superpower: It can act as a neutral or as a splash of color. "Blue is just one of those colors that's universally pleasing. It plays well with others and creates a sense of calm," says Cheryl Luckett, principal of Dwell by Cheryl.

Blue is an equal opportunity color for home interiors. Depending on the shade and saturation, it works for nearly anything, from paint and trims to millwork, tile and furnishings.

3. Built to Last

Conservation of energy and resources will continue extending into the realm of interiors in 2024. There will be more interest in mindful consumption and higher-quality pieces, according to Ksenya Malina, Adelaide-based interior designer of Time & Place Interiors.

"That means sourcing materials with an environmental and social consciousness, including selecting FSC-certified woods, supporting small-scale manufacturers, and moving away from short-lived "fast furniture" in favor of longer lasting quality designs." The most sustainable furniture is pieces that already exist, so Malina also anticipates more vintage and upcycled pieces in people's homes.

4. Banquettes

Adding more comfort to the kitchen is a priority, according to Karp. She said she sees banquettes increasing in popularity because they offer a mix of materials and provide a cozy intimacy. "Combine materials like wood, fabric and metals to create depth in your home. A great example of this is the increase in banquettes, which were previously very '70s."

Banquettes create breakfast nooks for lazy Sunday mornings and informal weeknight dinners. On the design side, they offer a softer feel and balance to a kitchen's gleaming surfaces and angles.



5. Special Interest Rooms

There's a movement away from multi-functional spaces from the early years of pandemic lockdowns. Interior designer in Adelaide says 2024 will see homeowners focus on rooms that truly serve them in a personal way. "My clients are asking themselves what they need specific rooms to be, and how they can create something that serves them."

Luckett herself has been involved in client projects with wine rooms and adult lounges. Reading rooms and adult game rooms are also getting requested more often.

6. Statement Staircases

Staircases are predicted to get their much-deserved due next year, and it's easy to see why. A staircase is often situated near a home's entryway and can enhance that all-important first impression. "A staircase is the spinal cord of a home," says Karp.

She anticipates homeowners making bolder choices when building staircase configurations, selecting handrail and baluster materials and colors, and choosing risers. "Homeowners are taking bigger risks with staircases...from modern staircases integrated with older designs to traditional brownstone staircases painted all black to lend a modern look."

7. Style Mixing

Open up Instagram #hometok, and you'll see a lot of homogeneity in interior design styles in Adelaide. (Modern farmhouse, anyone?) And while these favored themes are likely here to stay into 2024, Malina anticipates people will mix things up for a more bespoke look that defies the trends: "Homeowners will be looking to move away [from] conventional, repeated interior styles in favor of more personalized spaces that convey their unique personalities."

8. Rich Neutrals

Warm brown tones are set to replace cool grays that reigned over everything from paint and flooring to couches and decor. "Browns are warm and grounding," says Luckett.

As people aim to make their spaces cozy and inviting, she expects the pendulum to move away from colder grays and toward saturated neutrals like chocolate brown.

9. Round Kitchen Islands

Adding softness to the kitchen will extend to its core functionality. Curves and rounded edges, once relegated to furnishings and arched doorways and niches, are finding their way into the kitchen. Look for oval kitchen islands coupled with bold countertop colors and veining.

"That more organic and feminine touch is here to stay and certainly will continue to uptrend next year," says Karp. Fluted architectural detailing in island bases softens the look and accentuates its curved silhouette.

10. More Upholstery

Moving into the new year, Luckett expects to see more movement away from the cooler tones and minimalistic aesthetic and to interiors that favor casual refinement with lots of texture. "And you can't get warm and cozy without upholstery," she adds.

6. Cleaning For Collectors: Caring For Delicate Items And Preventing Dust

Antique furniture, fragile porcelain sculptures, silverware, painted vases, and ceramic figurines are more than just possessions. These cherished collectibles can add timeless beauty and vintage appeal to a home. If you are enthusiast about collecting these treasured items, keep them safe, secure and dust-free.

These require attention-to-detail cleaning, care and regular maintenance to prevent dust, dirt and debris accumulation. However, you must be extra careful because each antique needs specific cleaning and proven techniques.

Dusting with abrasive tools or using excessive water could lead to damage. You can also hire professionals for a budget end of lease cleaning Adelaide. They often use soft brushes, gently wipe the fragile items and use mild soap to deliver sparkling results. You can also do it yourself with extra care and precautions.

Here is a complete guide to cleaning and caring for your delicate and precious collectibles like a pro. Follow these tried-and-tested hacks to restore the pristine shine of your antique, priceless, and delicate items.

1. Protect Your Collectibles: Keep General Precautions In Mind

Make sure you adhere to basic precautions and techniques when handling or cleaning treasured items or collectibles. The following guidelines will help you maintain the pristine look and shine of them:

• Touch Porcelain Items with Care – Wash your hands before touching these delicate items to avoid oil stains and unpleasant residue.

- Use appropriate cleaning tools—For meticulous cleaning, microfiber cloths, soft-bristled brushes, and sponges are always good.
- Avoid Store-bought Cleaners- Avoid chemical cleaning solutions, as these can damage your fragile items. Instead, use mild or DIY cleaners.

Make sure you follow specific methods for cleaning different types of collectibles.



2. Clean Antique & Wooden Collectibles: Use Mild Soap, Water & Cloth

Do you have expensive antique furniture or wooden collectibles? These need non-abrasive cleaning tools and products to remove dust. So, consider this cleaning guide for desired results:

Remove accumulated dust and loose dirt using a microfiber cloth. Gently wipe in the direction of the wood grain to prevent scratches.

- Prepare a DIY cleaning solution by mixing mild dishwashing liquid soap and water.
- Dampen the cloth with the solution and gently wipe or rub the area.
- Let it dry completely.
- Wax or polish your wood collectibles once or twice a year to protect their finish and durability.

3. Clean Delicate Ceramics & Porcelain: Use Soft Brush, Cloth & Soapy Water

These are categorised as breakable possessions, especially when you have porcelain and ceramic figurines. So, here is a step-by-step guide to safely and effectively clean them without causing any damage:

Use a soft-bristled brush or a lint-free cloth for dusting the ceramic and porcelain collectibles.

- Mix warm water and mild dishwashing liquid in a bowl to prepare a solution
- Dip a cloth into the solution and wring it out before tackling stains and grime
- Gently wipe the surface. Use your hands softly without scrubbing or rubbing.
- Rinse the surface with plain water and dry it gently with a clean cloth.

Tip: Avoid abrasive scrubbing or using harsh chemicals, as they can leave scratches on the delicate surface.

4. Restoring The Shine Of Metal Items: Use Vinegar & Salt

People in Adelaide love collecting metal items, such as silverware, coins, vintage jewellery, and other precious possessions. To keep them clean and shiny, follow these tips using all-natural cleaners:

- Use a soft brush to remove accumulated dust and dirt
- Mix equal parts of warm water and vinegar in a spray bottle.
- Spray the solution on your metal collectibles and leave it for a while
- In the next step, sprinkle a generous amount of salt and gently scrub the surface.
- Rinse the possession with clean water and dry it immediately to prevent unwanted water spots.
- Use a non-abrasive metal polish to restore the timeless beauty of metal.

5. Preserve The Beauty Of Textiles: Use A Vacuum Cleaner & Mild Detergent

Delicate and beautiful textile and fabric treasures need extra care and attention when cleaning. So, here is the right technique to clean these cherished collectibles:

- When vacuuming your textiles, use a soft brush attachment and a low suction setting. This will
 easily remove embedded dust and loose particles. It is the best dusting techniques for delicate
 floor coverings as well.
- Spray mild detergent and hot water on the affected area to tackle stains and spills.
- Gently blot the area.
- Read the manufacturer's instructions before washing any fabric.

You can hire professionals for expert end of lease cleaning Adelaide to secure your full bond money. They will clean all the important spots according to the pre-approved checklist to deliver the best outcomes.

6. Safe & Effective Cleaning Paper-Based Collectibles

Make sure your hands are clean before touching paper-based collectibles. You can also wear cotton gloves to prevent fingertips and oil stains. Also, keep them secure when preparing for move-out cleaning.

After that, remove dust and grime using a soft-bristled brush or cloth. Gently brush in one direction to prevent smearing dirt across the item.

7. Collectibles Care Tips To Prevent Dust And Damage

Delicate collectibles are prone to damage, especially if you don't follow the appropriate care tips:

- Choose Display Cases or Shelves- These offer the utmost protection against dust, physical damage and UV rays. You can choose materials like glass or acrylic for unobstructed visibility.
- Protect them From Sunlight—Never display your treasured items in sunlight, as it can cause discolouration or fading. You can use a UV-protective shield or film on windows.
- Control Humidity Level- Extreme humidity in the house can cause mould infestation, warping and even deterioration. So, use dehumidifiers to control the moisture in the air.
- Use Soft-Erasers for Stains—Use a white vinyl eraser to remove stains and marks. Gently rub the area, not applying extra pressure.

 Regular Cleaning- Set up a regular cleaning routine based on the specific requirements of your items.

Make sure you hire the best end of lease cleaning Adelaide experts for a quality, stress-free and effective results. They can help you get the full bond back with ease.

Cleaning delicate, beautiful, and cherished collectibles requires precision, proper techniques, and non-abrasive supplies. The tips in the article will help you preserve the beauty of your precious possessions when preparing for an end of tenancy.

7. Conclusion

Successfully integrating delicate items into your home decor enhances its elegance and personal touch in Adelaide. By carefully selecting, displaying, and maintaining these treasures, you create a space that reflects your style and appreciation for fine details. Embrace the art of decorating with care, ensuring your home remains both beautiful and timeless.

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