



## Outward Bound

Feeling expansive? Use extra-sticky tape, like the bowl tape florists use, to secure reusable dry floral foam to the bottom of an urn or footed compote. (A flower frog with pins works too.) Then stick in stems here and there, so larger leaves contrast with smaller and wispier bits. Insert darker elements, like these scabiosa seedpods, for a dash of drama.

**THE DETAILS:**  
Dried flowers (throughout story), available at [drieddecor.com](http://drieddecor.com), [bloomist.com](http://bloomist.com), and [save-on-crafts.com](http://save-on-crafts.com).  
Frances Palmer terracotta footed bowl, \$950, [francespalmerpottery.com](http://francespalmerpottery.com).

Get wind of some welcome news: When you're decorating for fall gatherings, nothing looks fresher than dried botanicals, especially when they've been preserved and tinted in chic colors. Take your pick at the flower shop or crafts store—these sprigs, sprays, and pods look delicate, but they'll give your home lasting style.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY RYAN LIEBE TEXT BY PETRA GUGLIEMMETTI CREATED BY NAOMI DEMAÑANA





FIELD  
×  
day

**Waves  
of Grain**

Equal parts farmhouse tradition and #ombré obsession, this whirl of a wreath ripples from rust to beige to gold to blond. Wire small single-color bundles onto a circular metal form, working from bottom to top (light to dark). For an abundant, untamed look, tuck in longer straws and fronds, and finish with a thin velvet ribbon.

**THE DETAILS:** M&J Trimming velvet ribbon (#02416),  $\frac{3}{8}$ ", \$1.75 a yd., [mjtrim.com](http://mjtrim.com).



---

These centerpieces can reach skyward without blocking anyone's view, thanks to grasses like bunny tail and timothy that are tall, thin, and airy enough for conversation to flow right through.

---





## Grassroots Movement

So maybe you didn't have time to traipse through a meadow to forage fodder for your tabletop. This setup is the next best thing. The key to its breezy but modern feel is to stick mostly to one variety per vase (the mashup of white stoneware also stands out nicely on a rust tablecloth), and line them up loosely. The spare palette will work all winter; for a change of scenery, just swap out the vessels.

**THE DETAILS:** West Elm Pure White ceramic bottle (second from far left), \$29; Pure White ceramic egg vase (second from right), \$12; and Frayed Edged napkins, in Belgian Flax, \$19 for 4, [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). Frances Palmer Sam white earthenware pot (far right), \$550, [francespalmerpottery.com](http://francespalmerpottery.com). Food52 Bodega stackable glasses, from \$30 for 12, [food52.com](http://food52.com). Crate & Barrel Jett flatware, \$70 for a 5-piece setting, [crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com). CB2 Crisp Matte White dinner plates, \$8 each, [cb2.com](http://cb2.com). RH Singular side chairs, in Brown Oak Drift, \$235 each, [rh.com](http://rh.com). M&J Trimming velvet ribbon (#02416), ¼", \$1 a yd., [mjtrim.com](http://mjtrim.com).



## Stem Subjects

Bleached or dyed dried botanicals offer all the texture and personality of live foliage, with the bonus of unexpected hues. Yes, you can find them in hot pink, emerald green, and electric blue. But we're partial to a neutral, more natural approach.

Flax grass

Bunny tail

Asparagus fern

Cecropia leaf

Scabiosa seedpod

Umbrella fern

Italian ruscus

Rattlesnake grass

Ostrich fern

Little rattlesnake grass



## Shining Through

Stage a laser-free light show, one where candles flicker through ferns to cast a gentle glow. Dot hot glue along the dried leaf's spine, then gently press it around the exterior of a glass hurricane. Shown here (from left): asparagus fern, umbrella fern, and Italian ruscus. The cloudlike beauty in the background is frosted explosion grass.

**THE DETAILS:** Frances Palmer white earthenware five-spout flat tulipière (far left), \$850, francespalmerpottery.com.

