

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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## Decorating on a Budget: Insider Secrets From 15 Pros

We asked designers to share their favorite (imperceptibly) cost-saving moves—from convincing faux fireplaces to semi-custom drapes

### Paper the Pantry

“I love to add wallpaper in unexpected places,” said New York interior designer Fawn Galli, who was forced to scrap plans for a pantry with built-in cabinetry due to budget. “Bold floral paper under open shelving ended up being much more powerful and punchy. Sometimes value engineering can work out in your favor.”



In a pantry, New York designer Fawn Galli installed statement wallpaper—Full Bloom, Begonia, from Flat Vernacular—and simple shelves, much cheaper than cabinets. PHOTO: RICHARD POWERS

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**WE DON'T GENERALLY** think of interior decorators as particularly concerned with saving their clients money. You don't go around bidding on \$14,000 antique Hungarian chairs or gilding the undersides of piano benches if you're not working for someone with bottomless bank, right? In fact, designers are frequently asked to keep an eye on the left side of the ledger—without letting any of the cost-cutting show. Here's how 14 of them deftly maintained high style standards with strategies so economically smart, you can try them yourself.