

HOUSE CALLS

For an entrancing foyer, think big picture

BEFORE



BY EMILY LANGER



THE CHALLENGE

"I would LOVE to have a more welcoming, warm foyer to greet our friends."

Homeowner: Judy Slotnik of Bethesda on her 10-by-20-foot entryway

THE SOLUTION

A foyer should be both welcoming and practical, a **place to greet guests** as well as the **last stop** on your way out of the house.

Elegant touches, such as fresh flowers, set the mood for your home. **Useful furnishings**, such as an ottoman for putting on shoes and a mirror, make the room livable.

Consider a **custom mural** for a look that is completely your own.

For lighting, buy a **second chandelier** similar in style to the one hanging at the top of the stairs. Save money by hunting in shops such as Habitat for Humanity's ReStore resale outlets, which often sell classic furnishings at low prices. Priming and painting both chandeliers with an Old World finish will give the space a cohesive look.

Show off your wood floor, but not too much of it; an expanse of exposed wood can look too hard and shiny. **Area rugs with complementing patterns** add warmth and comfort.

Architectural details such as crown molding and trim bring grandeur and style.

Designer: Jennifer M. Schwelkert of Just My Style by JMS in Burke, 703-321-6155, www.justmystylebyjms.com

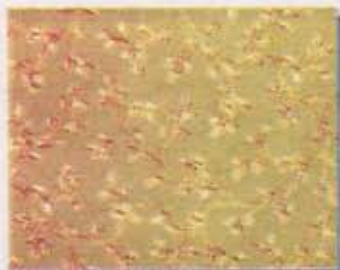
AFTER



Mural by Fran Rauch of FR Designs in Fairfax County (similar projects starting at \$1,000 for a 6-by-8-foot mural, www.frdesignsllc.com).

OWNER PHOTOS BY LEAH L. JONES FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

How to get the look



1

Custom moss green area rug from Couristan's Spring Lake collection (about \$400, www.flooringamerica-stores.com).



2

Leather round cocktail table by Bernhardt Furniture (\$1,204, www.furniturecrate.com).



3

Tall round accent cabinet by Hooker Furniture (\$602.80, www.furniturecrate.com).

MORE IDEAS

Antique tiled floor mirror (\$359, www.westelm.com).

Mural by Fran Rauch of FR Designs in Fairfax County (similar projects starting at \$1,000 for a 6-by-8-foot mural, www.frdesignsllc.com).

Moss green Tabriz area rug from Couristan's Kashmir

Collection (about \$600, www.flooringamerica-stores.com).

Enhanced crown molding and trim around doorways (price varies by project, www.justmoulding.com).

Tell us about your design challenge Send photos, room dimensions and contact information to makeover@washpost.com.



See more photos of this project at www.washingtonpost.com/housecalls.