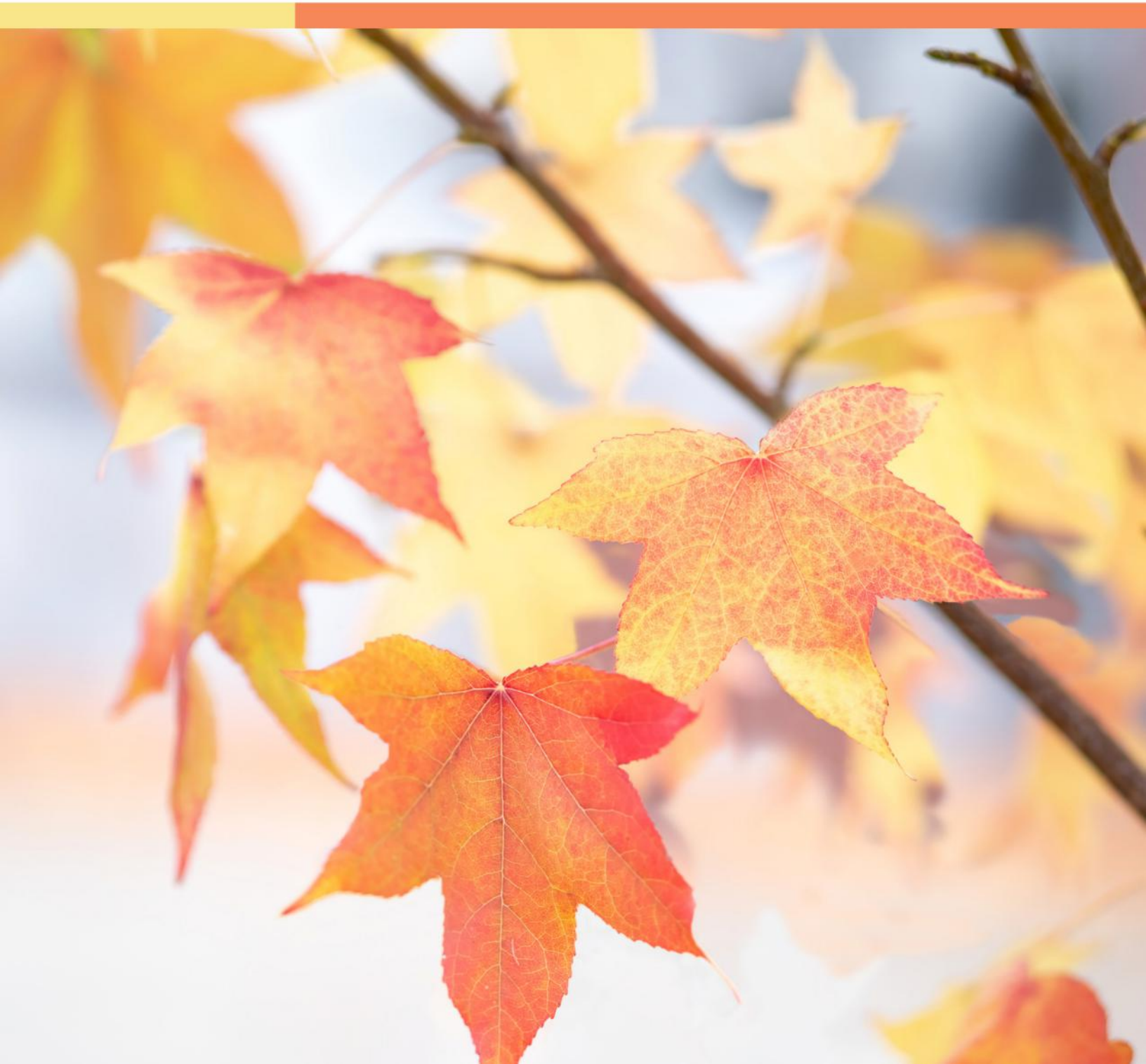


# **DISTINCTIVE LIVING**

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# DISTINCTIVE LIVING



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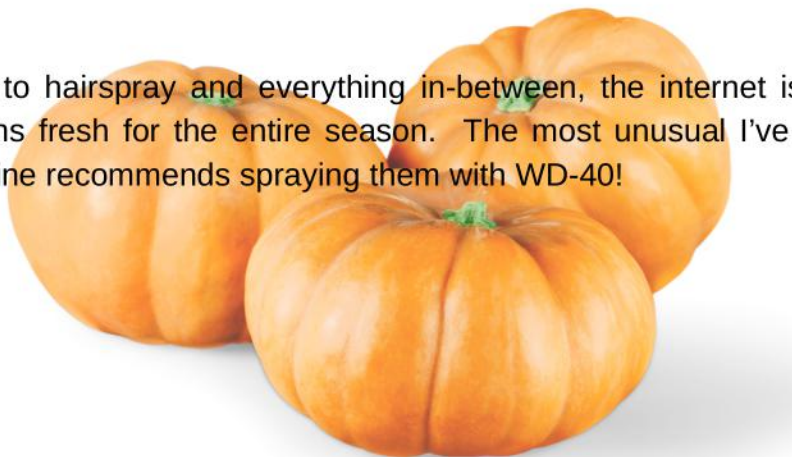
# fresh fall decor



Sometimes autumn in Texas is little more than wishful thinking, but Texans are a stubborn bunch and we celebrate nonetheless! While boots and hats are staples in our wardrobes, sweaters, coats, and wool suiting are rarely practical for our weather. Since it's hard to dress ourselves in the spirit of the season, many decide to deck the halls early and give our homes a fall makeover. Whether you go for plastic pumpkins and skeletons galore, or opt for something a bit more subdued, it's easy to give your home into a festive fall feel without breaking the bank! Here are a few of my favorite ideas for a quick fall touch.

- A fall wreath can set the tone for the season! Don't forget to put one on the back door where you can enjoy it every day!
- Swap out spring arrangements for fall branches and leaves.
- Replace cool-color glass accessories with charming pottery in neutral or fall colors.
- Give soft furnishings a cosy feel with throw pillows and blankets in warm fall colors.
- Fill glass vases with natural collectibles like pine cones or acorns.
- Scented candles can add a pop of fall color and a touch of fall to the air.
- Likewise, fall-themed plug-in diffusers offer fresh fall fragrances without the safety concerns of candles.

- From bleach to hairspray and everything in-between, the internet is rife with hack to keep pumpkins fresh for the entire season. The most unusual I've found? *Southern Living* magazine recommends spraying them with WD-40!







Autumn comes slowly to South Texas, but that doesn't prevent us from looking forward to cooler, dryer weather and pumpkin-spiced everything! While interest rates have risen to the highest levels that some buyers have seen in their lifetime, they are significantly lower than some we've seen in the past. If you find yourself ready to list during the fall months, here are a few tips you can use to ensure your listing gets the attention it deserves. These easy tips will make your home stand out among your competition and help reduce days on market.

1. Take a curb-side look at the damage the hot summer has done to your landscaping, and trim or replace anything that didn't make it through!
2. Add a wreath or swag to the door for a touch of fall.
3. A scented candle can add a cozy autumn feel inside, even when it's hot out.
4. Keep seasonal and holiday decor minimalistic... a touch of fall is fine, but resist the urge to decorate every surface!
5. Rake up leaves and clean up planting beds regularly to keep them looking neat and tidy.



*If you're thinking of falling into the real estate market, timing is everything! From the time it takes to get your house ready, to the day your listing goes live, all the way to closing, I'll be by your side, every step of the way!*



# fall into fun!

October is Festival Season in Houston, and even if we don't have sweater weather, we still enjoy being outdoors and celebrating the idea of a change in seasons! Here are some of the area's best fall festivals and events!



## ORIGINAL GREEK FESTIVAL- HOUSTON

3511 Yoakum  
[greekfestival.org](http://greekfestival.org)

OCTOBER 6-8

Since 1966, Houstonians have "gone Greek" every October with a dive into the culture, food, and spirit of Greece. The food is delicious and the lines are long, so pack plenty of patience and plan to make a day of it!



## KOREAN FESTIVAL

Discovery Green  
[kfesthouston.com](http://kfesthouston.com)

OCTOBER 7

Since 2009, The Korean Festival has become one of the largest free cultural events hosted at Discovery Green in Downtown Houston, drawing tens of thousands of visitors to its cultural presentation and culinary experience





## HOUSTON POLISH FESTIVAL

1731 Blalock

[houstonpolishfestival.com](http://houstonpolishfestival.com)

SEPT 29- OCTOBER 1

The Houston Polish Harvest Festival brings Polish traditions pertaining to food, drink, and entertainment to Texas. The Polish community in Houston proudly hosts this event.



## WINGS OVER HOUSTON

Ellington Airport

[wingsoverhouston.com](http://wingsoverhouston.com)

OCTOBER 14-15

One of the top air shows in the United States, this premier Houston event is dedicated to showcasing vintage World War II aircraft, along with the thrills of modern aviation, and has supported a variety of local and national charities during its 39-year history.



## BAYOU CITY ART FESTIVAL

Sam Houston Park

[bayoucityartfestival.com](http://bayoucityartfestival.com)

OCTOBER 14-15

Originally the Westheimer Colony Art Festival, the Bayou City Art Festival is Houston's iconic art festival showcasing the works of 300 artists in 19 different categories at Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park in the spring and Bayou City Art Festival Downtown in the fall.





*According to the Houston Area Urban Forestry Council Tree Planting Guide, mid-November to late-February is the best time to plant trees in the Houston area. Planting in late fall or winter will allow roots to become established before moisture demanding summer sets in.*

#### **Fall Pruning**

After the first growing season, light pruning and removal of dead branches can be done at anytime. Winter is the best time to prune. Prune spring flowering trees, like redbuds and fruit trees, after they bloom. The best time to prune live oaks and red oaks is in late June through September and January through early February. Pruning these oaks during the rest of the year could make them more susceptible to the oak wilt disease. Always use clean and sharp pruning equipment. Never use a ladder for pruning and never prune trees near a power line.



[https://www.houstontx.gov/police/cpted/planting\\_information/Tree\\_Planting\\_Guide\\_Booklet.pdf](https://www.houstontx.gov/police/cpted/planting_information/Tree_Planting_Guide_Booklet.pdf)



# Fall is tree planting season in Houston



## **Energy Conservation**

Trees planted strategically on the west, south and east sides of your home can reduce cooling costs by up to 50%. Deciduous trees shade your home during the hot summer months, while allowing sunlight to warm your home during the winter. Planting evergreen trees on the north side of your home will slow winter winds which can reduce heating costs by up to 30%.



## **Increased Property Value**

Trees enhance the economic vitality of a city. Trees can increase property values by as much as 20%.

## **Wildlife Habitat**

Trees provide food and shelter for birds and other wildlife in our urban environment.

## **Aesthetics**

Trees beautify our urban environment by making our communities more livable and helping to restore our mental health and well-being.

## **Improved Air Quality**

Trees act as filters by trapping dust and absorbing air pollutants, while releasing vital oxygen.



## **Storm Water Reduction**

Trees help reduce storm water runoff and soil erosion, while improving water quality



## FACTS ABOUT

# Trees

One of the functions of trees for life is to have the ability to carry out photosynthesis which produces oxygen gas and sugar.



### LEAVES •

The main function of leaves besides photosynthesis is to be a place to store water and food reserves.



### TWIGS •

As a food and water trajectory.  
As a place for the growth of new shoots in plants.



### STEMS •

Transport media to storage of food reserves, is very important to support plant growth and development.



### ROOTS •

Helps plants grow upright. In addition, roots can hold plants from falling.





# DISTINCTIVE LIVING



## LOOKING TO GET MORE VALUE FROM YOUR HOME?

My website, [ggburch.com](http://ggburch.com), is designed to help you get more value from your home at any stage of home ownership. In addition to featuring current listings in the Houston area, my site features exclusive content you won't find anywhere else, especially curated to help my friends and clients get the most from their homes. Whether you need vetted recommendations for contractors and tradesmen, or want to find tips and tricks to do things yourself, the pages of my website bring my experience with home ownership to you.

My blog is sometimes serious, occasionally silly, and always an attempt to entertain and inform, based on my many years serving clients in Houston. Topics range from property taxes and inspections to gardening and recipes, so browse on over to [ggburch.com](http://ggburch.com) and see what's on offer!

## WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU?

When I ask clients (and potential clients) what's important to them when choosing an agent to assist with their real estate needs, the concepts of "trust" and "honesty" are usually first on their list. When it's time to approach an important transaction like the purchase or sale of a home, would you prefer to work with someone random, or someone you've come to know and trust? In this fast-changing world, it's not always easy to establish and maintain honest, meaningful relationships, which is why I use my website, blog, and social media to keep in touch. My posts, comments, and images are my attempt to create connections without resorting to cold calls, robocalls, and spam texts. Even if you never plan to buy, sell, or invest in real estate, I invite you to join me on social media for honest, truthful insight into how I approach business and life!



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## MY MISSION

is to provide 5-star service to every client, every time. By listening to each client's needs and providing clear communication through every step of the process, I work hard to streamline the transaction and allow clients to focus on their life and home.

## MY PRINCIPLES

- integrity and honesty
- steadfast fiduciary commitment
- knowledge is power
- communication is strength
- simplicity wins
- nothing counts without consistency

### SELLERS



can expect accurate pricing, eye-catching marketing, and consistent communication throughout the transaction.

### BUYERS



will appreciate a thoughtful approach to the shopping process that respects their time, budget, and experience.

### INVESTORS



receive timely, accurate data and market insight to support their business needs.

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