



Collect poster art from your favorite flicks.

This is one instance when a poster doesn't automatically equate to dorm style. Check at the bookstore or online for comprehensive listings of film-noir titles. Many are available for under \$20 on eBay. Don't worry about investing in an original unless you're particularly passionate about it. The great thing about reprints is their pristine condition. You can find industry poster frames at theatre supply wholesalers. They are substantial and unlock from the front, which is a big bonus if you want to be able to change the coming attraction according to your whim.

Pay attention to the furniture.

Consistency with details will help pull the look together. Furniture with sweeping, geometric lines works best. Choose navy, black, or deep-purple cotton velvet slipcovers for existing furniture. (Black gets linty.) Add velvet or "leather" ottomans and oversized pillows for extra floor seating.

Invest in window treatments.

Thick gold or silver braided cord and tassels from the fabric store can be used as curtain tiebacks, giving the feel of theatre ropes. Use a double-traverse rod for movie room windows. The smaller rod accommodates a rod-pocket sheer to let light in

but keep privacy. The larger rod accommodates the hooks for thermal drapes. These are a bit more expensive, but have a two-fold advantage: The thermal backing keeps heat in and cuts your electricity bills; it also makes the room completely dark for a premium screening experience.

Focus on the screen.

If you don't have a built-in entertainment center, mount a curved piece of PVC or a bedroom canopy kit to hang rod-pocket velvet curtains above the television. The effect is like an old-time movie theater.

Accessorize.

Decorate with elements that reflect the luxurious living of 1940s celebs:

- Faux fur throw blankets and pillows backed with satin
- Table lighters
- Retro cocktail wares
- Glass vases filled with calla or tiger lilies
- A swank cigar box (to house the remotes)
- Old film canisters (perfect memento boxes or snack trays)
- A silver champagne bucket (for serving popcorn with a little glitz)
- A chalk board (to announce the night's feature)

Dim the lights.

If you're serious about this space, the next step is to install great lighting. Rope lighting, like that used in cinema aisles, is available by the foot from home-improvement centers. Run it around the room's perimeter, attaching it to the floor molding or baseboard. For a quicker fix, get a retro feel from tall halogen lamps.

Represent your personality.

Fill your space with black-and-white photos, friends and family mugging for the camera included. If you're short on closet space, display your most theatrical clothes on a small, rolling rack. Add some coffee-table books on film noir or admired directors. Complete the scene with a few exotic pieces from your true or fictional travels.

Print a catalogue of your movie collection.

Treat it as a mini-library so you can keep track of what's borrowed and overdue. Put address labels on loaners as a little reminder. Take chances with obscure titles like early Bogart mafia flicks.

Now all you need to do is invite some friends with equally good taste, pop some corn, and dim the lights. If you can find a Maltese falcon, that would be pretty cool, too.

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