



Making a Fireplace Welcoming, Even Without Striking a Match

Three designers came up with unusual ways to accessorize mantel and hearth. "Rather than using vases of roses or peonies, I decided to place tiny terra cotta pots of succulents on the mantel," Randy Ridless said. "I wanted to do something

unexpected." The plants, above left, are easy to find at florists.

For a nonworking fireplace, center, Andrew Raquet created the look of a fire with electric crystal lamps, available in many colors from Pelham Grayson,

www.pelhamgrayson.com or (800) 321-8725. The lights are \$20 to \$29 each.

Marshmallows in a glass cylinder, right, await roasting at Eve Robinson's hearth. "Every room needs an element of surprise," Ms. Robinson said. "The

marshmallows give the place a touch of whimsy and give people a chuckle." She emptied 25 bags of marshmallows into the container and then stuck one on a poker leaning against the surround. They should be roasted right away or covered.