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# Style Your Shelves

Betsy Bracken and Melissa Kibbee of Bixby & Ball show you how to lose the clutter and make an eye-pleasing display

//PHOTOS BY JOHN DOLE



## Sleek and Chic

Balance is key—left, right, and center. Think about how the eye will travel from shelf to shelf, and space things accordingly.



Color-code your books—in color blocks or a continuous rainbow—for visual impact.



Books don't always have to stand upright. Stack them horizontally for a streamlined look. Pull books to front of shelves.



Keep decorative items in the same style and color for cohesion.

Short on storage space? Think outside the book and consider using your shelves to display china, glassware, or artwork.



For added interest and color, incorporate fresh fruit and flowers.



If displaying glassware, include books about entertaining. If showing art, work in a few art books.



Create consistency by repeating a particular color or theme.



## Books Optional

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### Vintage Finds

Think beyond traditional bookends and try unexpected alternatives such as vintage objects, plants, or architectural corbels.



If you don't have old books, you can achieve the same look by removing the dust jackets to expose raw bindings.



Search for items that have an aged look due to weathering, patina, or rust.

Cluster similar or related items for bigger impact—cameras from different decades, antique bottles of varying heights, or an old suitcase and pair of binoculars.

