

40 Frugal Fall Ideas

In the Garden

- Compost fall leaves, pumpkins, etc.
- Save seeds for next season.
- Inventory your seeds for planning next season's garden.
- Start your fall garden.
- Upcycle plastic food containers for seed-starting and potting up.
- Barter garden chores or plants with neighbors.
- Make seed-starting pots from recycled newspaper.
- Note fall decor trends. Plan to grow next year: gourds, pumpkins, or colored corn.
- Finish stacking firewood before winter.
- For kids: teach seed-starting, have a bug or plant scavenger hunt.

In the Kitchen

- Make your own pumpkin pie spice.
- Try a new fall recipe.
- Make kimchi or sauerkraut from fall cabbage.
- Inventory your dry goods pantry.
- Make a list of your favorite fall meals for weekly meal planning.
- Eat seasonally.
- Buy fall foods in bulk and preserve extra.
- Save meat bones in the freezer to make broth for soups and stews.
- Learn to bake bread or yeast rolls.
- Freeze veggie scraps to make vegetable broth for fall cooking and soups.

Around the Homestead

- Conduct a home maintenance review.
- Create a monthly home maintenance checklist.
- Gather items from nature to decorate.
- Line-dry your clothes and bedding.
- Review your budget and spending habits.
- Do outdoor repairs: fencing, painting, clean window screens and siding.
- Inside, do a thorough cleaning, replace batteries in alarms, clean the chimney.
- Make your own cleaning products.
- Learn to make soap, toothpaste, and other personal care items.
- Start crafting holiday gifts now.

In the Community

- Host a bonfire party.
- Take a nature walk or hike.
- Visit a farmer's market to support your local food producers.
- Have a yard sale.
- Shop thrift stores for seasonal decor, fall baking pans and tools, and cookbooks.
- Spend the day at a local park with others.
- Take a fall color tour drive with a fun destination like a park or U-pick farm.
- Go fishing.
- Camp in your back yard, do some stargazing, & tell stories around the campfire.
- For the kids: a fall scavenger hunt, board games, learn fall crafts, teach them to bake cookies or a pumpkin pie.