10 Steps to a Nervous-System-Friendly Living Room



	1. Clear one surface. Start small: one coffeee table, one shelf, one windowsill. Empty space gives your eye (and brain) a place to rest.
	2. Add a natural textile. A soft throw, linen pillow, or cotton slipcover invites comfort. Bonus if it's something you already own.
	3. Remove one visual trigger. Too-bright decor, clashing patterns, or that thing you've been meaning to move for months—let it go.
	4. Add one warm light source. Try a lamp, candle, or string lights with a soft amber glow. Ditch overhead LEDs.
	5. Create one "pause zone," A chair with a view. A eading cushion. A window ledge. Somewhere you can set and breathe for one quiet minute.
	6. Switch to a grounding scent. Vetiver, cedarwood, neroli–or even just fresh air. Skip the synthetic.
	7. Use a basket to contain clutter. Visual order = mental order. Group loose items into one tactile, breathable container.
	8. Choose a calming color. Add one tone like sage, sand, clay, or cloud. Nothing loud. Nothing urgent.
	9. Mute background noise. No TV as amblent filler. Try silence, ambient sound, or music with intentionality.
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