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## How to Avoid the 5 Worst Entryway-Decorating Mistakes

[wsj.com/articles/how-to-avoid-the-5-worst-entryway-decorating-mistakes-11622209818](https://www.wsj.com/articles/how-to-avoid-the-5-worst-entryway-decorating-mistakes-11622209818)

By Elizabeth Anne Hartman

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As we prepare to welcome guests back into our homes, interior designers share the most common décor goofs they see in foyers—and how to ensure those missteps don't darken your doorway



A CASE FOR BASKETS In a Washington, D.C. foyer, large woven catch-alls stow shoes, said designer Amanda Khouri, of Nashville-based Murray Khouri. Photo: Stacy Zarin Goldberg

AN ENTRYWAY should feel like an appetizer on your way to the main course,” said New York City interior designer Laura Krey, one of the many designers who wonder at the neglect this key room often endures. Lacking an actual foyer is no excuse, said Lucie Ayres of 22 Interiors in Los Angeles. “You must figure out how to define an area that will welcome you and your guests.” Rugs, wallpaper and seats can delineate where walls don’t. We asked pros like Ms. Ayres for the irksome decorating gaffes they see most frequently, and for their seasoned advice on what to do instead.

## **The Family Dump**

Life happens—shoes, bags, jackets and umbrellas get tossed by the front door without a second thought,” said Amanda Khouri, co-founder of design firm Murray Khouri in Nashville. That includes the detritus that Covid has littered our lives with, such as masks and sanitizers. Kristen Peña, of San Francisco’s K Interiors, noted that while we must stay safe, “it’s important that your entry has a more-welcome, less-E.R. feel.”