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Budget Lamp Base Ideas

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Lighting is one of the keys to good design, yet lamps can often cost a small fortune. Creative bargain decorators can make their own custom lamps out of numerous inexpensive items that you may already have in your home. Here are a few suggestions of items to use as a unique lamp base.

Vase or Flower Pot: Any vase that you find interesting can be made into a lamp base. For first time lamp makers, we suggest starting with something that is either made from silver or brass, rather than glass. This will eliminate the likelihood of your lamp base breaking during construction.

Figurine: A decorative figurine in the shape of a person or animal will make a lovely base for a lamp. Look around your home for an item you already have on display, or shop garage sales or flea market for a cheap find.

Wine Bottle: An empty wine bottle can be made into a lamp. This is a great way to save a bottle from a special evening and turn it into a practical item in your home.

Books: Old books, when stacked together, can create an interesting lamp base to be used in a Study or Home Office. You can stack books of the same size for a neat and clean look or stager the book size to create a more random feel.

Antique Spool or Bobbin: Often you can find an antique spool or bobbin at a flea market for just a few dollars. They are typically made out of wood and often are painted in interesting colors. One tall spool can be used for a petit lamp or a few spools or bobbins can be stacked together for a taller lamp.

Toy: A child's favorite toy can be made into a lamp base. No longer played with toys to consider using as a lamp base include model airplanes and cars, a doll, doll house furniture, and any type of action figure. This is a low cost way to reuse an old toy.

Teapot: An old teapot makes a colorful, delicate base for a lamp. Search your cupboards for a perky pot, or pick one up for a few dollars at a rummage sale.

Once you select your base, you will need to purchase a lamp wiring kit. There are many kits on the market, and you can typically purchase one at either a hardware or craft store. After your inexpensive lamp base is wired, you can add a shade of your choice. Your finished project will be a one of a kind, budget friendly lamp.