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& DESIGN IDEAS!

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HOME & GARDEN

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Inspiring Home DESIGN IDEAS

LOCAL INTERIOR DESIGNERS SHARE THEIR SECRETS FOR DRESSING UP EVERY SPACE IN THE HOME, FROM THE INSIDE OUT **BY TERI EVANS**



Living Room

BIG ROOM, COZY AMBIENCE

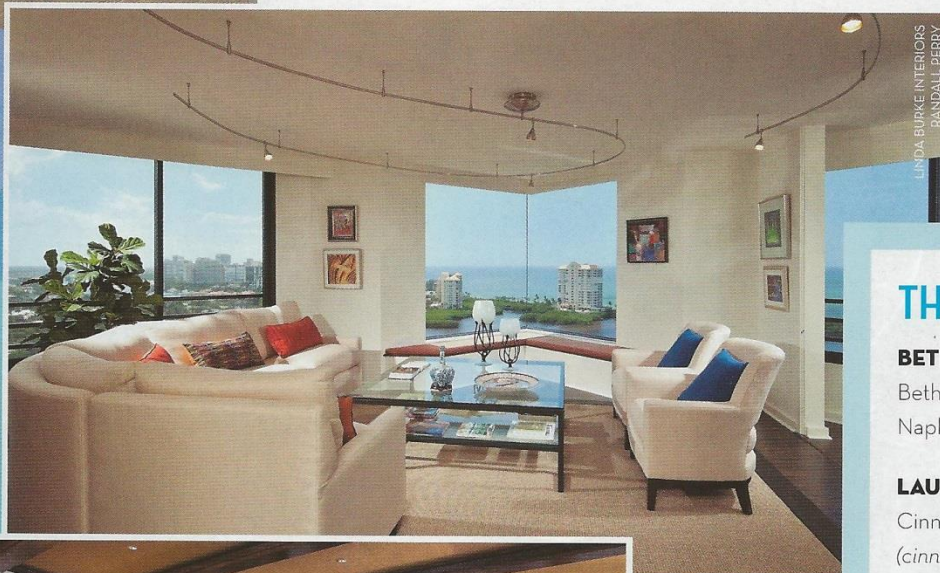
When decorating a large space, many designers agree that it is important to arrange furniture pieces into several conversational areas, which allows for a more intimate setting.

"You will enjoy the closeness of the more intimate groupings when it's just the two of

you, for example, but still have the ability to rearrange the furniture for larger gatherings," says Jenny Provost of K2 Design Group. She also suggests using larger furniture that is proportionate to the size of the room. "We just completed a living room in which we used a cocktail table that was 8 feet square. It anchored

the furniture grouping and was completely in proportion to the room size," Provost adds. If you're thinking of going small, she cautions against using furniture that is too small, as that can make the grouping appear lost and swallowed up by the space.

Lisa Kahn of Lisa Kahn Designs says varying



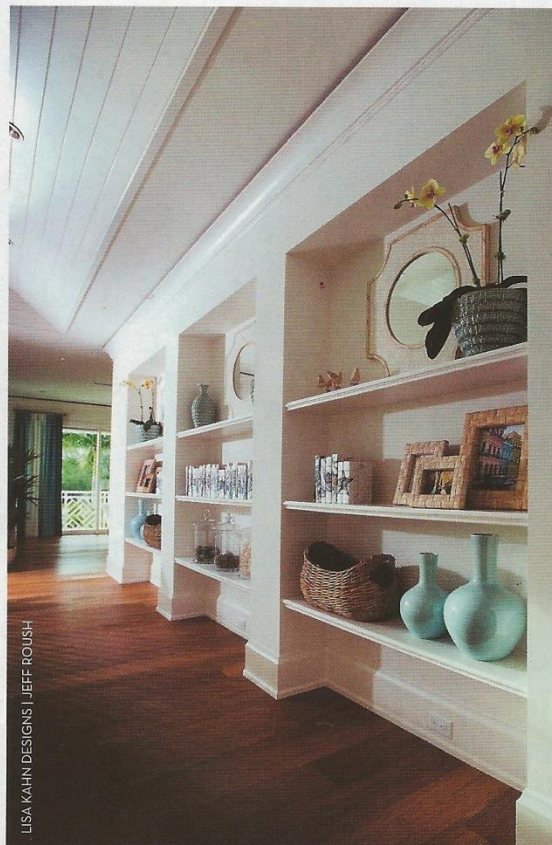
LINDA BURKE INTERIORS
RANDALL PERRY



LISA KAHN DESIGNS | JEFF ROUSH



BETHANY O'NEIL INTERIOR DESIGN | LORI HAMILTON



LISA KAHN DESIGNS | JEFF ROUSH

THE EXPERTS

BETHANY O'NEIL

Bethany O'Neil Interior Design, Naples (bethanyoneil.com)

LAURIE WALTER, DIANA HALL

Cinnabar Design, Naples (cinnabardesign.net)

DWAYNE BERGMANN

Dwayne Bergmann Interiors, Fort Myers (dwaynebergmann.com)

FAITH FIX

Freestyle Interiors, Bonita Springs (freestyleinteriors.com)

MINKA MCDONALD

Jinx McDonald Interior Designs, Naples (jinxmcdonald.com)

JENNY PROVOST

K2 Design Group, Bonita Springs (k2design.net)

KIRA KRÜMM

KDG-Kira Krümm & Co., Estero (kirakrumm.com)

LINDA BURKE

Linda Burke Interiors, Naples (lindaburkeinteriors.com)

LISA KAHN

Lisa Kahn Designs, Naples (lisakahndesigns.com)

SHARI SUMMERS

Summerfields Interior Design, Naples (summerfieldsnaples.com)

DEBBIE DEMARIA

Vogue Interiors, Bonita Springs (vogueinteriors.com)

colors and textures on the floors and ceilings can help bring a more human scale to a larger space and make it feel more intimate. You may even consider incorporating a game table within a space, as well as a seating area, as you define the purpose of each grouping within one large room, suggests Shari Summers of Summerfields Interior Design.

Living Room

THIS GRAND SALON FEATURES CATHEDRAL CEILINGS AND A REFLECTIVE BACKDROP. ARTWORK WAS COMMISSIONED SPECIALLY FOR THIS SPACE IN BLUE, CREAM AND SILVER HUES TO COMPLEMENT THE GULF COAST HORIZON.



“IF YOU ARE MIXING CURVED TRADITIONAL LINES WITH MORE STREAMLINED AND MODERN, GO WITH SOLID-COLORED FABRICS THAT SIMPLIFY. —KIRA KRÜMM

KDS-KIRA KRÜMM & CO. | RANDALL PERRY

3 TIPS TO MIX STYLES

1

KNOW YOUR BOUNDARIES. Limit the number of finishes and pay attention to the silhouette of each piece, suggests Kira Krümm of KDG-Kira Krümm & Co. "If you are mixing curved traditional lines with more streamlined and modern, go with solid-colored fabrics that simplify," she says.

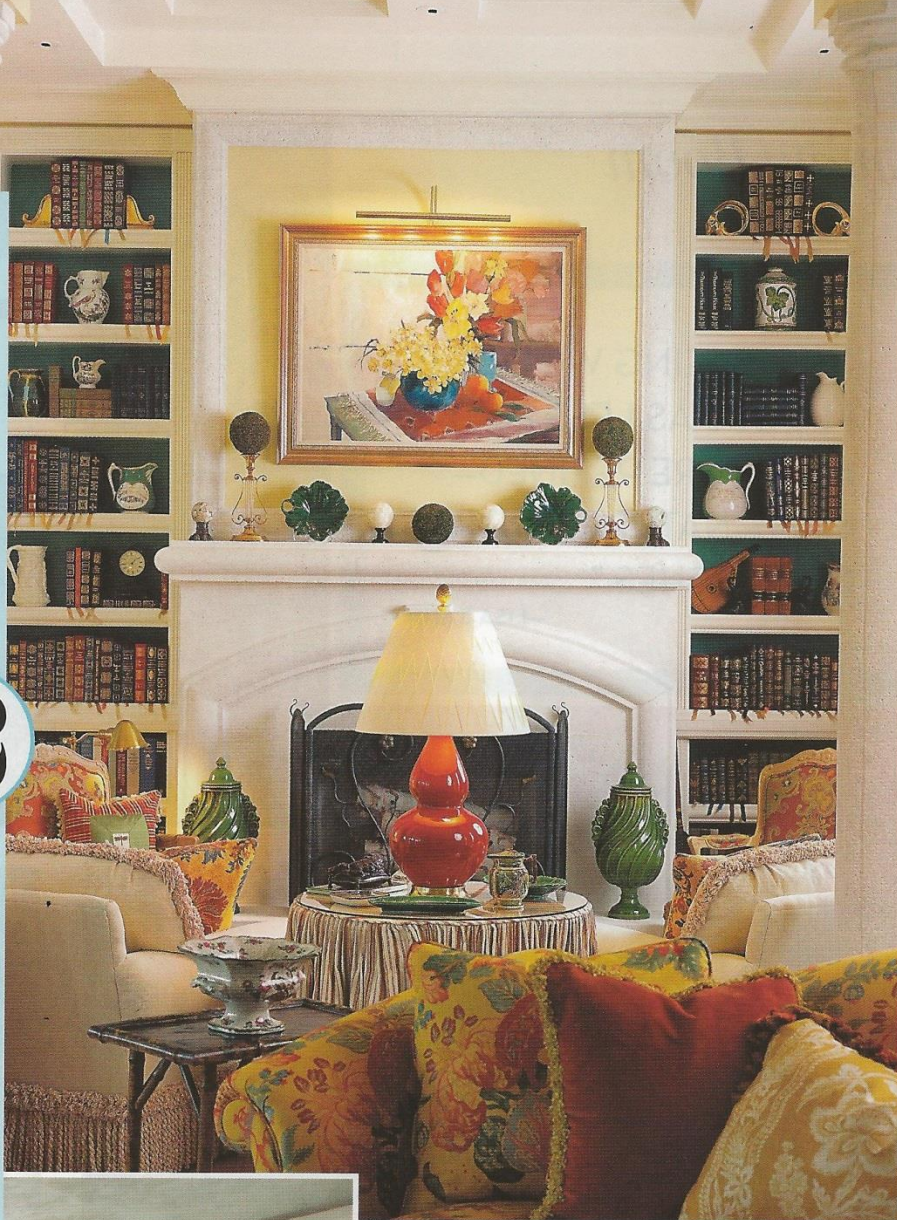
KEEP A SEMBLANCE OF ORDER.

Be consistent with either the backgrounds, like the walls and ceilings, or the furniture, notes Jenny Provost of K2 Design Group. "When I mix period and contemporary furniture, I tend to keep the walls and ceilings neutral," she says. "I like to use period appliques and trim work on white walls with modern furnishings placed carefully."

3

LOOK AT SHAPES. "Mix square items with furniture that has rounded lines," says Linda Burke of Linda Burke Interiors, who also suggests mixing contemporary, smooth, crisp furniture with rustic accents or with an intricately carved piece.

2



SUMMERFIELDS INTERIOR DESIGN

FOR ART LOVERS

When art is displayed correctly, design experts say it can add interest and bring your space to life. "For optimal visibility, consider location and viewing height and invest in quality framing that does not distract from the art, yet coordinates with other finishes," says Kira Krümm of KDG-Kira Krümm & Co.

How you display art also depends on the extent of your collection. Consider a display cabinet or étagère, decorative wall brackets, or a grouping on a cocktail table, suggests Shari Summers of Summerfields Interior Design.

"If artwork is of great importance to you, design your space as though it were a gallery: white walls and ceilings, high-quality and directed lighting, and darker floors," adds Jenny Provost of K2 Design Group.

Or simply pick a wall and make it a gallery, suggests Dwayne Bergmann, Dwayne Bergmann Interiors. "I find hallways are always accepting of this type of installation," he says.



KDG-KIRA KRÜMM & CO | RANDALL PERRY



“

FOR HOMES WITH HIGH CEILINGS, EMPHASIZE COMFORT AND LIVABILITY IN THE FURNISHINGS AND FLOORING. RICH WOOD FLOORING AND COMFORTABLE PLUSH FURNITURE CAN ANCHOR A SPACE AND GIVE THE INTERIOR AN INVITING APPEAL.

—KIRA KRÜMM

THIS KITCHEN FEATURES OPEN DISPLAY SHELVING, A COUTURE CHEVRON BACKSPLASH, MARBLE COUNTERTOPS, AND POPS OF AQUA FOR A PLAYFUL TOUCH.

ADD PERSONALITY IN THE KITCHEN BY ADDING A UNIQUE WALL COVERING OR ACCENT COLOR IN AN UNEXPECTED PLACE. —KIRA KRÜMM

Kitchen

EXPERT TIPS ON HOW TO BLEND STYLE AND FUNCTION WHEN DESIGNING THIS IMPORTANT GATHERING AREA OF THE HOME

Consider these three fresh ideas for stylish, functional cabinetry when deciding on your next kitchen remodel.

Sliding panels and doors. Not only can you tuck things away easily, you can also access items faster with this design option. Bethany O'Neil of Bethany O'Neil Interior Design says adding sliding panels of stone in place of a backsplash is great for hiding clutter and small

appliances. "We are seeing a greater use of the horizontal upper cabinets with slide-up covers and open shelving," adds Linda Burke of Linda Burke Interiors, "more use of glass doors and metal cases or boxes."

Deep drawers. Add deep, pullout drawers in the bottom cabinets to make them much more functional, suggests Debbie DeMaria of Vogue Interiors. "They make it easy to find

things without breaking your back or having to get down on your knees to reach something at the back of a lower cabinet," she says.

Luxurious style. Make a unique statement with stunning back-painted glass doors or walnut drawers. "They are rich looking and, for cabinets, are like comparing a Kia to a Jaguar. I particularly love the walnut knife-block drawer," says Jenny Provost of K2 Design Group.



HOW TO ADD PERSONALITY TO THE KITCHEN

Accent colors. Add an accent color in an unexpected place, like the inside of cabinetry or the pantry. “Our client fell in love with a bold aqua accent color we incorporated into accessories and in a geometric-patterned wall covering for her pantry that added a playful statement to one of her favorite spaces,” says Kira Krümm of KDG-Kira Krümm & Co.

Display personal items. Leave display cabinets at the top of upper cabinets open so they can be lit to display collected items. “It’s a fun way to show off interesting personal items and brings much-needed contrast and personality to the kitchen,” says Debbie DeMaria of Vogue Interiors.

Clean look. Another popular kitchen element is zero-lined sinks, where the sink is at the same level as the countertop and is not under-mounted. “It’s a feature that makes for a clean installation that does not involve any caulking,” says Debbie DeMaria of Vogue Interiors.

DESIGNER TIPS FOR BACKSPLASH DESIGN

One way to make a style statement is through the backsplash, an important finishing touch and focal point. A stone slab backsplash offers a clean, luxurious look.

“Solid surfaces in either large format or whole slabs” are on trend, says Dwayne Bergmann of Dwayne Bergmann Interiors. Some local designers point to laser-cut, marble-and-glass tiles as popular for the backsplash in patterns like quatrefoils and basket weaves.

“Decorative mirror and sculptural tiles, such as wave tiles, are also emerging design trends,” adds Shari Summers of Summerfields Interior Design.

Meanwhile, some classic, traditional styles also appear to remain popular. “Subway tiles are still an important trend, in glass, stone, or porcelain tile,” says Laurie Walter of Cinnabar Design.

Bedroom



ROOM TO SPARE

DESIGNER SECRETS TO MAKE A GUEST ROOM MORE WELCOMING

When decorating your guest bedroom, you can instantly add personality by introducing one unique accent color in each room, according to Kira Krümm of KDG-Kira Krümm & Co. “Also, offer the option of a headboard that can function as a king or can be pulled apart for two twin beds,” she says.

When it comes to furniture, an accent chair is a must, says Bethany O’Neil, Bethany O’Neil Interior Design. “It will give a guest a nice place to throw their clothes, a place to put on their shoes, and an escape to relax from their host,” O’Neil says.

Welcoming touches with accessories are nice, but also re-

member to focus on comfort.

“Pay attention to the bedding, window treatments, and lighting,” says Dwayne Bergmann, Dwayne Bergmann Interiors. “If the bedding isn’t comfortable, the windows completely room darkening, and bedside lighting isn’t convenient, the rest doesn’t matter.”

Finally, avoid the mistake of decorating your guest room with all your unwanted items. “Don’t use master bedroom hand-me-downs,” says Jenny Provost of K2 Design Group, “Invest in luxury linens. It will make your guest’s stay memorable.”

“ FOCUS ON SOOTHING NEUTRAL HUES AND AVOID BRIGHT, BOLD COLORS AND TOO MANY BUSY PATTERNS. —Kira Krümm

BETHANY O'NEIL INTERIOR DESIGN | LORI HAMILTON



KDG, KIRA KRÜMM & CO. | RANDALL PERRY

BEDROOM DESIGN FAUX PAS

1

TOO MUCH FURNITURE. “The bedroom should be the most intimate space in the home, but it is often way too large and completely overfurnished,” says Dwayne Bergmann of Dwayne Bergmann Interiors. “If a large master wing is available, create a dressing or waiting room with a beverage center, television, and comfortable seating or larger closets with functional areas within the closets to take out some of the unneeded space in the bedroom.”

JARRING COLORS. Red is the biggest mistake for a room designed for sleep. “There is no rest in a red room,” says Jenny Provost of K2 Design Group. “Bedrooms must be soothing, regardless of design style.”

2

3

PIECES ARE OUT OF PROPORTION. For example, some of the most common mishaps are nightstand heights that are not appropriate for a particular bed and selecting a bed that is too big for the room, according to Shari Summers of Summerfields Interior Design.

AWKWARD BED ANGLE. “Always place the bed so you see the foot of the bed when you walk into the bedroom,” adds Provost, though “this is sometimes adjusted for unique glass walls with incredible views.”

4



“

CONTINUING THE LOOK OF THE FLOORING FROM THE INSIDE TO THE OUTDOOR LIVING AREA CREATES A HARMONIOUS FLOW.”

—KIRA KRÜMM

VOGUE INTERIORS | JOHN SCIARRINO



A FIREPLACE AND CEILING DETAILS HELP CONVEY INDOOR COZINESS.



PREESTYLE INTERIORS | MICHAEL MC VAY

IN THIS BONITA BEACH HOME, THE WOOD INTERIOR FLOORING IS REPLICATED ON THE WATERFRONT PORCH WITH SIMILAR-LOOKING TILE FOR A SEAMLESS LOOK.

KDG-KIRA KRÜMM & CO | RANDALL PERRY

Outdoor

WHETHER YOU'RE DINING ALFRESCO OR HOSTING A SOIREE, DESIGNERS SHARE HOW TO EMBRACE THE OUTDOORS IN CHIC STYLE

5 WAYS TO BRING THE OUTDOORS IN

Usher in your surroundings by creating a visual flow. When Lisa Kahn of Lisa Kahn Designs first looks at a project, she studies the surrounding landscape for colors, textures, and shapes she can repeat inside. "Creating a visual tie through repetition is very effective at bringing the outside inside," Kahn says. You can also use an accent color from the interior as the dominant color in the outdoor spaces, suggests Linda Burke of Linda Burke Interiors. In flooring, "wood-look" tile is popular as it mimics indoor hardwood flooring, according to Kira Krümm of KDG-Kira Krümm & Co. "Visually, this creates a

harmonious flow from the inside out," she says.

"My designs almost always feature continuation of flooring from inside to outside, if not always in material, then in color and sheen," says Jenny Provost of K2 Design Group. "I also use outdoor drapes, which are weather-resistant and require little maintenance."

When it comes to walls in the outdoor living area, consider painting them in a warm and welcoming color that is also found inside. "It creates immediate continuity when the sliders are open and you're moving back and forth between inside and outside," says Debbie DeMaria of Vogue Interiors.

DESIGNERS' PICKS FOR OUTDOOR KITCHENS

"CABINETY THAT IS STAINLESS STEEL INSIDE AND OUT IS WEATHER-RESISTANT AND NOW AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS TEXTURES ON THE OUTSIDE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE INSIDE IS STAINLESS STEEL AND THE OUTSIDE COULD BE A POWDER-COATED ALUMINUM. IT'S MAINTENANCE-FREE AND CAN BE HOSED DOWN WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT MOLD OR MILDEW."

—DEBBIE DEMARIA, VOGUE INTERIORS

"PORTABLE ICE MAKERS AND BUILT-IN PIZZA OVENS THAT USE WOOD LIKE A EUROPEAN PIZZA OVEN."

—LINDA BURKE, LINDA BURKE INTERIORS

"PERLICK APPLIANCES HAVE MASTERED THE HEAT OF FLORIDA BETTER THAN ANY OTHER MANUFACTURER."

—BETHANY O'NEIL, BETHANY O'NEIL INTERIOR DESIGN

"NATUREKAST [WEATHERPROOF CABINETY], A FAUX WOOD PRODUCT MADE OF RECYCLED PLASTIC, IS DURABLE AND ATTRACTIVE."

—DIANA HALL, CINNABAR DESIGN

INSIDE OUT: THE CEILING WAS DESIGNED TO COMPLEMENT THE REVERSE TRAYS AND DETAILS INSIDE THE HOME.

HOT SPOT Whether you choose a classic fire pit or a contemporary fire table, fire features are still increasing in popularity—a trend that shows no sign of abating anytime soon. Fire features come in countless sizes, shapes, and styles to create a dramatic focal point when entertaining alfresco. "An outdoor fireplace instantly creates a cozy area to sit and talk," says Debbie DeMaria of Vogue Interiors. Whether fueled by propane or natural gas, fire pits are also being built into a variety of gathering tables. "Larger fire pits can be used to anchor areas on the pool deck and create a terrific place for people to gather and socialize," DeMaria adds. "Some builders are incorporating fire features, such as fire bowls or linear fire strips, in their pool and spa designs." Or, suggests Linda Burke of Linda Burke Interiors, "Build a wall water feature and place a low fire feature along the bottom of it." <<

Anna Welch contributed to this report.