

YOUR HOME[®]



BUDGETING
FOR A NEW BUILD
TRANSITIONAL **STYLE**
LED TECHNOLOGY
FALL IN **FLORIDA**

inside DESIGN

Expert Advice from Interior Designer Kira Krümm

When it comes to your home's interior, creating a quality living environment that is safe, functional and well-designed is just as important as visual appeal. Licensed Interior Designers are not only qualified in the aesthetic aspects of design, but we are also required to stay up to date on regulations enforced by building codes that help protect your Health Safety and Welfare (HSW) within your home.



Soothing neutral hues and "eco-chic" design details create a serene, healthy setting in the nursery Krümm designed for her son.

What are some tips for creating an eco-friendly nursery for our new baby on the way?

As a GREEN Accredited Professional, and a member of the Sustainable Furnishings Council, I am happy to provide my clientele with the resources to create environmentally safe and healthy interiors. I also avidly incorporate sustainable design in my own home, especially when creating an eco-chic nursery for my first born. As I would approach any interior, balance and simplicity were key. Sleep is the most important thing for newborns, so start with selecting the right crib. I chose a contemporary style made of New Zealand Pine wood from sustainable forests, a hypoallergenic mattress, and bedding made of 100% premium organically grown cotton without harmful pesticides, chemicals or dyes, great for newborn skin. The carpet is made of corn and is soft, durable, stain-resistant, and environmentally safe. I used nontoxic, low VOC paints and painted the room months in advance. A ceiling fan is also a great addition. It clears stagnant energy and releases a soothing sound. Fans are also known to help reduce SIDS.

My spouse is experiencing progressive vision loss. What are some design solutions to consider as we build our dream retirement home?

Florida is a prime destination for couples embarking on their retirement, and many seek interiors that will accommodate this next chapter. There are many ways to incorporate safe, beautiful design elements that will ease in mobility and aid in livability. For the visually impaired, high-contrasting architectural details, such as light backgrounds in flooring and walls and darker finishes in pilasters, doorways, and tile details, can provide visual pathways while adding depth and dimension to the interior. Adequate lighting is critical, and a certified lighting consultant can integrate quality lighting specifically to fit your needs.



Example of contrasting floor detail to help with wayfinding.

As we remodel our home, what design features can we consider in order to make our interior wheelchair accessible?

Spacious, open floor plans are ideal when considering wheelchair accessibility in any interior. If possible, expand the width of doorways and hallways to 36" and eliminate any curbs, to ease in mobility. Consider wheelchair accessible counters and sinks in the bathrooms and kitchen. In bathrooms, a sloping ramp into showers is a functional solution that also creates a sleek, modern look. Include built-in shower seats and hand-held shower heads with a slide bar. If major changes are not feasible, details such as incorporating lever door handles and plumbing fixtures, as well as grab bars in showers and water closets, can be a swift, practical improvement.

Creating wheelchair accessible vanities, eliminating shower enclosures, and incorporating a sloping shower entry can aid in bathroom mobility. With the variety of options available, aesthetics do not have to be sacrificed for functionality.



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Award-winning interior designer, Kira Krümm, has garnered global acclaim securing her position as a visionary at the forefront of modern interior design. With recognition in countless regional and international publications, and a collection of more than 30 industry honors, her brand includes her signature product line, the Kira Krümm Koastal Kollection, and her interior design firm, Kira Krümm International Design, which specializes in full-service, custom interior design and home décor for luxury residences.

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Photography is courtesy of
Interior Design Photographer Randall Perry
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