

Home Décor

trends, styles, making changes easily

BY LAURA REDD



When you purchase a home, the ideas begin to fly for the final look and outcome of your home. A great source for your ideas are Pinterest and Houzz to find looks that you like or styles that speak to you. These sources are great for seeing the current trends and ideas.

Another source is the High Point Furniture Market, which is one of the two main furniture shows in the country. After attending the fall market, it was clear color is on its way back. Colors like teal, navy, blue, and purple are on the rise. Color trends change here about 5-7 years before they show up for the general public.

In accessories, the next big change will be the shift from silver to gold, not BRASS! The gold is soft and warm with a brushed finish, not shiny! A great way to add gold to a gray room is in a lamp, bookends, or a table top accessory. Gold is also showing up in bathroom hardware, faucets and lighting. I love to mix this with navy blue for a stunning and current look.

Now that you have the pictures, ideas and Pinterest boards, where do you start? The best place to start is with the big things, like paint and floor colors. Do you like your floor color? Many current styles show a lighter, warmer brown floor color to give the room warmth right from the start. If your floor color is good, you can move on.

Second, are your paint colors. The trend at this time is GRAY. There are many shades of gray, more than 50 to be exact, some are blue based, and some are red based, making one cooler and one more warm. Picking the right shade of gray sets the tone for the feel of the room. A great way to decide is to look at your furniture. The color of your sofa and the patterned fabrics in your room sets the direction of your paint color. If you have not selected these items, you will get to build the pallet any way you want. A great neutral paint color is Repose gray by Sherwin Williams. This color changes with the furniture and lighting that is used around it. Another option for wall color is a taupe. Taupe is tan and gray mixed together. A great Taupe color is accessible beige by Sherwin Williams. Taupe is my personal favorite when building a room. It allows me to go in any direction and change accessories like pillows, throws and table top easily.

Next is furniture, if you are more conservative, lean towards a neutral sofa and add color with pillows, a throw and a colorful rug. A colorful ottoman adds that pop of color, especially if it is a pattern, allowing you to change it up whenever you want. I love creating two schemes, spring and summer, lighter and brighter, and fall and winter, warm and cozy. If you lean towards the bold, look at a Navy or a Kelly Green sofa to pop the room from the start. With this look the accessories can be soft or keep

going with your bold self and bring a floral fabric or a menswear pattern.

A pair of patterned chairs is your next step, maybe even 4 chairs depending on the room size. The trend is to do more chairs and fewer options show a love seat. They were never comfortable for two strangers to sit on, only if you knew each other.

When matching fabrics, remember to look at texture. Some should be nubby, some should be soft and smooth and let's not forget the leather. I feel every room should have some black and some leather. I love a thick matte finish leather on an ottoman with a metal leg. This keeps it transitional and will fit into any style.

Finally, the rug, art and lighting. A big trend right now are the over died rugs. This is a basic oriental rug that has had a bright dye run thru it, to make it very vibrant. These are fun and make a great accent to a room, but they are not for everyone. A bright rug with a soft gray pallet is soothing and attractive. Or you can flip the scheme, and do colorful furniture with a neutral geometric styled rug.

Art: it's personal and there are many options that do not have a high price tag. Big box chains have canvas options that look amazing. I love the agate look! This is a slice of stone that has been framed or painted. These add a great look that is a little more unique than a landscape. Look for art that inspires you... period.

Lighting: lamps should be 28-31 inches tall to be used as a table lamp. Lamps are a great way to bring in color, the current metal color or stone. Think of these as a way of bringing in a current trend and not something that has to remain for decades.

The basic trends are everywhere to be seen. Flip thru a magazine while waiting in the grocery store line, or visit a coffee shop with a bookstore. But if all this has made your head swim, or you just want some help pulling the look together, reach out to a local interior designer to help. Ask a friend if they have someone they have used. The end result is to create a place that says home! []



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