

CHIC DÉCOR

Design – Colour Consultations – Space & Furniture Planning – Window Treatments

Captivated by Colour

Enriching your life with colour is one of the most effective and rewarding decorating projects you can undertake, provided you do some research and create an action plan prior to getting started.

Colour Flow

First you need to determine how many rooms you are seeking to enhance. Are these rooms mainly on the second floor, namely bedrooms and bathrooms, or is the main floor your primary concern? Colour choices for the former can be much more personalized than when selecting hues for the main floor.

Most main floors these days have an open concept plan where more than one room can be seen from another. In this case when selecting a new colour scheme it's important to consider how it will work from room to room, what looks great in a south facing room may look icy in a north facing one. Does that mean you have to give up on that trendy shade of gray for that north facing room, even though it looks great in the opposite side of the home? Not at all, but it does mean that you'll need to find a hue that's warmer in feel for the walls and then accessorize with your beloved gray.

Of key importance is repeating the same colours throughout the main floor, either on the walls, or in the form of accessories such as throws, cushions, draperies, etc. By switching how the colour is used creates a dynamic environment. And by repeating the same colour in the various rooms you create flow and movement, always a winning combination.

Bedroom Boredom by Beige

For those whose bedrooms have died from an overdose of beige a little research will be required when creating a new colour palette. Searching through your/your children's wardrobe will often give the necessary clues as to one's colour preferences. If this leads to another beige (dead) end, then searching for new fabric/bedding is the optimal place to start.

Avoid anything that is overly neutral such as cream, sand, etc. Once the bedding has been chosen selecting wall and accessory colours is relatively simple. Most bedding has more than one colour in it so select an adjacent hue that co-ordinates with the principal colour. A word of warning though, a colour that looks fine used in small doses on a duvet cover may be absolutely overwhelming when used on all the walls. In this case you will need to choose a toned down version of that hue, or pick another more subtle hue from the bedding.

Remember, bedrooms need to be serene (but not boring), therefore avoid overly vibrant and stimulating colours on the walls such as red, bright orange, etc. these will prevent you from a good night's rest. Use them instead in the form of accessories if they compliment the primary colour you have chosen for the bedding and draperies.

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