

Home On Your Own: Learn To Decorate It Yourself

Design Expert Provides Advice For Easy Home Makeovers

(NAPSA)—“My home furnishings are old.” “My lifestyle has changed.” “I want to give my home a fresh look.” “My furniture tastes have changed.” These are the top four reasons Americans are redecorating their homes, according to respondents in a recent nationwide research study. In fact, according to the same survey, one out of every two U.S. households will inevitably undergo a home makeover.

“That’s not surprising,” says author and interior designer Catherine Bailly Dunne, A.S.I.D. “As our lifestyles change, so do our tastes and needs.”

Dunne has outlined six steps to give people the confidence and tools they need to get their makeover moving.

Step 1: Visualize Success.

Before you begin, walk through your home and envision the home you want. Think about colors, space and dimensions, which pieces you love and which ones you want to replace.

Step 2: Learn Your Style and Let It Shine. Look through decorating books, magazines and catalogs to learn more about what appeals to you. Soon, you will see a common thread of styles, colors and themes.

Step 3: Start Inspired.

Choose the room or rooms where you want to begin. You may decide to start in the room where the family spends the most time together—or the room that needs the most work.



Step 4: Say Goodbye to Pieces That Have Outworn Their Welcome. Make room for the furnishings you’ve always wanted, and say goodbye to hand-me-downs and leftovers from past lives.

Step 5: Say Hello to Your New Home. Trust your instincts and choose furniture that you truly love rather than settling for something that will fill space.

Step 6: Add the finishing touches. Accessories have a big impact on a home’s personality. Lamps, vases, area rugs, mirrors, picture frames and other details complete a room.

“Catherine’s tips provide wonderful guidelines for America’s growing number of homeowners,” says Jackie Hirschhaut, vice president of the American Furniture Manufacturers Association. “Redecorating is easy, once you have an idea of the most effective ways to get started.”