

Decorator's Notebook

Timeless Trends Meet New Favorites

(NAPSA)—Decorating a home doesn't have to be difficult.

Designers say the key is to work with pieces you already have and then add a few surprises to liven up a room. That means simple things, such as new throws, a new lamp or a different centerpiece, can energize a space, as can adding a few new key pieces of furniture.

You can also decorate to match some classic trends. Carol Donayre Bugg, ASID, director of design for INTERIORS by Decorating Den (IDD), says clients consult with IDD decorators to get the scoop about what's in fashion. The decorators visit a client's home, discover her tastes, style and budget, and then shop the world of home decor, from literally hundreds of private manufacturers, to help build the perfect room. They even handle the minute details of decorating, from arranging for furniture deliveries to the hanging of window coverings.

So what are Bugg's clients looking for this year? Here's a closer look:

Mixed Matches

Bugg says neo-traditional styles are making new inroads. A great example is the living room created by decorator Julie Bass. It smoothly marries contrasting fabric, textures and furniture styles—think skirted tables layered in a gorgeous silk plaid, armless slipper chairs in textured gold damask, or a robust sofa covered in burgundy chenille.

Additionally, the simple shirred heading of the room's drapery



Luxe Living—New furnishing styles add glamour to everyday living.

design is enriched by the extra fullness of the embroidered faux silk, which has been pulled dramatically to one side with an accent tieback. The decorator finished the look by having the walls painted "humble gold."

Livable Glamour

All of these diverse elements were beautifully and carefully assembled by the decorator to satisfy her client's wish for a casually elegant traditional setting in which to entertain friends. The room has become a favorite place for hosting wine-tasting parties.

Bugg observed that some trends move in and out of fashion at the speed of the changing seasons, but you can count on the everlasting appeal of traditional and its dependable association with gracious living.

Get Expert Advice

An important step in decorating a special room in your home is to get a free consultation with a designer. To find out how or for more information, visit the Web site www.DecoratingDen.com.