

BUDGET STRETCHING DECORATING IDEAS

Wallpaper Most-Used Rooms First

(NAPS)—When decorating a new home in stages, most people begin with the public areas—the living room or entryway. That's a mistake, according to many design professionals who suggest that their clients gain more from their decorating dollars by starting with wallpaper, for example, in an area they use every day.

“The master bedroom, which is often last on the list, is where I urge clients to start,” says Lee K. Coggin, president of Anleri Interiors, Inc., Atlanta. “It is a place of everyday comfort, a home's real respite,” she reasons. “Unfortunately, when a space is on the bottom of homeowners' decorating priorities, it often never gets fully decorated at all. More lasting satisfaction comes from investing first in the rooms that are used most,” she contends.

While Chicago designer Susan Redeker, president of Lincoln Park Interiors, agrees, she suggests an alternative starting point. “The family room, which is now often integrated with the kitchen, is where life is really lived,” she says. “It's not only where the family gathers day in and day out, but also where people often entertain.”

In both cases, the designers urge clients to choose colors and themes that will be compatible with the plans they have in mind for other rooms. Wallpaper and borders can give visual distinction to different areas of activity in an integrated kitchen/family room. The new Provence Classics wallpaper collection from Village, for example, features stripes, plaids, textural effects, florals and other designs in coordinating and complementary colors.



S'Est Levee Swag Border is the romantic decorative accent in this master bath. The same border decorates the adjacent bedroom and dressing areas, helping connect them visually. Patterns and colors reminiscent of southern France, from the new Village Provence Classics collection, adorn the whole house.

“A single border pattern at the ceiling throughout a space can tie together a kitchen, wallpapered in a sprightly novelty print, with a stripe on an adjacent wall,” suggests Dana Weichselbaum, the Village design director. “This provides visual interest and distinction while maintaining an esthetic unity.” Two different colorations of the same pattern will also tie together different areas of an open-plan kitchen, a master bedroom or bath with the hallway outside.

To see hundreds of wallpapers and for decorating ideas, visit www.villagehome.com or call 800-552-9255 for the nearest store that carries Village.