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Colour

ADDING COLOUR TO
YOUR SPACE

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Colour makes a space feel inviting, inspiring, and alive! It's also an integral element to creating the right mood. As a designer, it's always my goal to create living spaces that feel warm and unique. Colour allows me to give each space a personality of its own. Here's how you can create an eye-catching space and achieve a cohesive design using colour.

1. THE STARTING POINT

Before adding colour to any space, think about the mood or feeling that you want to convey. Are you looking to create a calm and relaxing living room? Or maybe it's a warm and inviting dining room where dinner parties end in dance parties? Setting the tone for your space can help you determine which colours are right for you. The colours that you choose will dictate the room's vibe, and can even influence the energy of the people who are enjoying the space.



INFUSE PLAYFUL POPS OF COLOUR USING ACCESSORIES, LIKE FLOWERS, HAND TOWELS, OR SHOW STOPPING WALL ART LIKE THIS PRINT WE USED AND LOVE! .



2. CONSIDER WHO IS USING THE SPACE

When decorating a common space for a family, it is important to think about who will in fact be using it. While navy and yellow compliment each other wonderfully, there's more to it than what meets the eye. The psychology behind colour is fascinating. There's no surprise that yellow is a cheerful colour that promotes optimism, while blue is associated with tranquillity, and reliability. It also happens to be the preferred colour of men. So, with family in mind, it doesn't hurt to use navy for the lads in the home!

It is also important to think about the backdrop of the space. For this living room (shown above), traditional walls painted in Grey Mist by Benjamin Moore offered a clean slate for colour. The cohesive space is relaxed and welcoming, while appearing polished at the same time. After all, finding that perfect balance is what transforms a beautifully decorated house into a welcoming home.

3. CREATING BALANCE

The right colour equation is also key to achieving a complimentary 'ying and yang' decor. It's important to balance bold colours with lots of neutrals, like the walls, carpet, and sofa in a living room. I like to use the 60-30-10 rule when decorating a space. Simply divide the colours into percentages: 60% of a dominant colour, 30% of a secondary colour, and 10% of an accent colour.

Sometimes, you will want to choose colours that blend in, and other times, you will want to go bold! A brightly coloured rug for example can create the 'wow' factor you may be looking for. And as an added bonus, bold colours work well if you have children running around, hiding the odd spill or stain much better than a lighter option. As shown below a nursery or kid's bedroom is another space that welcomes bold shades. With navy walls as our backdrop, this fun and vibrant drapery brings this nursery to life.

4. REPETITION IS KEY

Repetition is another useful tool to successfully use colour. By echoing a colour multiple times in a space, it feels purposeful and comforting. Layer the colour throughout the space with throw blankets, pillows, art, lamps, and other curated pieces. This will create a cohesive and unified design.

Even after choosing a well thought out colour scheme, it can sometimes feel like something is missing. This is where a pop of colour can sneak in. This addition creates further interest and gives a space the perfect finishing touch.

This colour ripple effect can also be created in a kitchen where the dominant colour is that of the cabinetry, counter and tiles.

No matter what room you are decorating, colour is your friend. Be bold and infuse some colour into your decor. Follow the tricks of the trade and you'll be surprised how energized you will feel. **BH&L**