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THE FALL/WINTER ISSUE

# BEAUTIFUL DESIGN **MADE** SIMPLE

THE *Fall + Winter* EDITION

## 3 WAYS TO WARM UP YOUR SPACE

DESIGNING A COZY HOME

## WHAT'S YOUR 2024 STYLE?

A GUIDE TO THIS YEAR'S TRENDS

## EMBRACING THE MAGIC OF CARPET

LAYERING WITH PLUSH WINTER  
WHITES



A high-end interior design photograph of a living room. The focal point is a large fireplace with a grey and white marble surround. A black TV is mounted on the wall above a black fireplace insert. To the left, a purple velvet armchair with a gold frame sits on a light-colored rug. To the right, a light grey sofa with dark blue pillows is positioned near large windows that offer a view of a wooded area. A gold chandelier with multiple white globe lights hangs from the ceiling. The room is decorated with dark wood shelving, gold accents, and a mix of textures like velvet, marble, and wood.

# Drama by Design

Written by DIANA ROSE | Design by DIANA ROSE

You might strive to minimize drama in your life, but when it comes to interior design, a little drama can go a long way. So forget the long-abandoned idea of the utilitarian home, and start thinking of your space as a blank canvas—your own masterpiece in the making.

Photography by STEPHANI BUCHMAN

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## THE DRAMATIC EFFECT

Adding the right emphasis in the right places can instantly elevate the aesthetic appeal of a room by infusing character, dimension, and a sense of luxury in an inviting and memorable atmosphere.

Drama, whether through color, texture, or material, becomes a focal point, guiding the eye and drawing attention to particular areas, such as a fireplace, a large piece of artwork, or an inlaid parquet wood floor. It establishes hierarchy and balance within the room. By the same virtue, a dramatic focal point can also detract attention from less-desirable elements in your space, making them recede from focus by drawing emphasis elsewhere.

The right dramatic decor elements allow you to express your personality and design preferences. Whether you prefer bold and vibrant colors, subtle textures, or intricate patterns, you can make a statement that reflects your unique taste.

## INTRODUCING THE FEATURE WALL

One way to add drama and create a fabulous focal point is by incorporating a feature wall. A well-designed feature wall can transform an ordinary space into an extraordinary one, capturing all eyes and leaving a lasting impression. From someone who's designed more than a few feature walls, here's everything you need to know, including the benefits of adding one, some inspiring ideas, and tips to help you put your creativity into practice.

## WHAT IS A FEATURE WALL?

A feature wall, also known as an accent wall, is a visually distinct element within a room that sets it apart from the surrounding walls. It is an opportunity to introduce color, texture, pattern, or material diversity, creating a captivating focal point. By highlighting a specific area, a feature wall draws attention to architectural details, emphasizes artwork, or showcases unique design elements.



Photography by MIKE CHAJECKI





## DESIGNING YOUR FEATURE WALL

You've likely seen a feature wall or two in your day. Maybe it was one of those muralized, marbled walls executed with paint, sponges, and imagination. Now, forget about them! Feature walls have come a long way through advanced materials and finishing options.

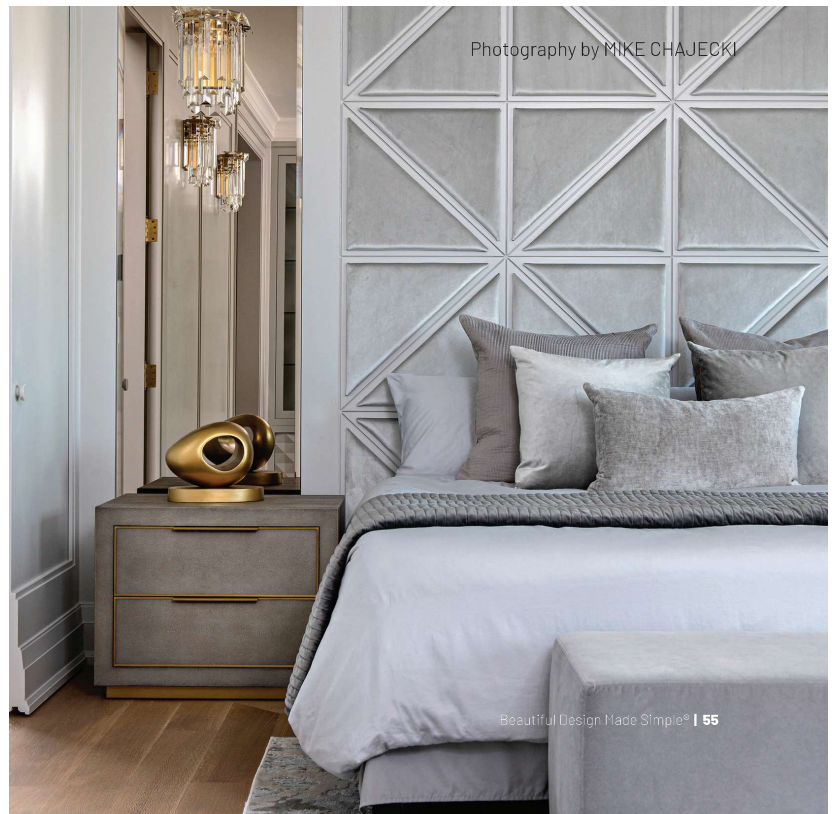
Here are a few ways to incorporate a feature wall and add moody drama to your home design.

### COLOR

Use rich jewel tones and deep hues like sapphire, emerald, or amethyst to create a dramatic backdrop for your space. Opt for contrasting colors that harmonize with the room's overall color scheme. For instance, a neutral room with natural-toned flooring can be complemented by a feature wall in a bold, contrasting color.

### TEXTURE

Add warmth and rustic charm with a feature wall clad in reclaimed wood. The natural textures and variations in wood grains create an inviting ambiance and can even work to complement your existing hardwood floors. Expose a brick wall to infuse an industrial or urban vibe. The raw texture and earthy tones make for a captivating visual statement. Explore textured wallpapers with patterns like faux grass cloth, woven fibers, or embossed designs. These add depth and tactile interest to your wall.



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FEATURE WALLS



Photography by STEPHANI BUCHMAN





Photography by MIKE CHAJECKI

## WALLPAPER

Wallpaper has certainly come a long way in recent years, available in a range of colors, patterns, and materials. Application has never been easier, and the same goes for removal when the time comes to refresh your space. When papering a feature wall, look for bold patterns, such as geometric shapes, botanical motifs, or abstract designs that draw attention. Incorporate wallpapers with metallic accents, like gold or silver, to add a touch of glamour and luxury to your space. To take it up a notch, use custom wallpapers if you have something specific in mind.

## TEXTILE TOUCH

Install fabric wall panels to add a touch of luxury and sophistication to your feature wall. Choose rich fabrics like velvet or silk for an opulent look. When it comes to textile touch, you can even find inspiration in the colorways and textures of area rugs that you've chosen to layer throughout your home.



# Tips for Executing a Feature Wall

- 1.** Choose your wall wisely. Select one that naturally catches your eye, like a wall facing the entrance to the room, one with an architectural feature, like a fireplace, or one that is the recipient of ample natural light. Avoid walls with windows and doorways, which can minimize the impact of the installation. Since the goal and purpose is to create drama, large, empty walls are the perfect blank canvas to infuse some style.
  - 2.** Use the feature wall to enhance your home's existing style scheme. This isn't the place to go on a tangent, which can make the wall stand out for all the wrong reasons. Instead, choose a design that complements its surroundings and creates a cohesive look.
  - 3.** In interior design, balance and proportion are everything, and this rule also applies to feature walls. In small rooms, using light colors and subtle patterns
- will ensure the wall doesn't overwhelm the space. However, subtlety gets lost in large rooms, so a bold choice will make a stronger statement.
- 4.** Design elements have zero impact if you can't see them, so be sure to highlight your feature wall with ample lighting. Natural light is always preferred, but in its absence, add lighting such as wall sconces, pendant lights, or spotlights to showcase the wall as the focal point it's intended to be.
- Your home should be an expression of your personal style, so use it as an opportunity to tell your story. The good news is that there are endless inspirations and options available to help you create that dramatic one-of-a-kind feature wall that makes the right impact. Think outside the proverbial box (or in this case, room), and make your home something truly special.

