



Designer FYI

By Kris Linder



The Perfect Fit: Designing for You

Have you ever walked into someone's home and thought, "this is exactly what I thought Mary's house would look like?"

Well, that's not surprising. Design is a very personal form of individual expression. Warm, comfortable, whimsical, colorful, jazzy, subtle, subdued, well put-together. These are all adjectives used to describe someone's personality — and these same words should come to mind when you think about home design.

A home should reflect the owner's personality, and create a perfect synergy between the two.

Many people think that if they use an interior designer they will not get a home with this personal touch — but just the opposite is true. A good designer can elicit and reflect a client's personality, even bringing out traits the person may not see in himself or herself. Often, people buy furnishings they think they will like...or that they see in magazines...or something that reflects an

image to which they aspire. These choices can be all too obvious on entering a home — there simply is no compatibility between the person and their surroundings. (If the homeowner is honest, he or she will confess, "It's just not me" or "I liked it when I bought it, but now...")

Let's look at the components, from a design standpoint, that meld the home's architectural style with the occupant's personalities and desires.

First of all, the home you live in is something you chose, so it must speak something to you — after all, you picked it for a reason. Whether it was location, schools, style or price, there was an underlying component that told you, "buy this one." Identify that component, because to live authentically in your home, you must make the home reflect your personality.

Maintaining the design integrity and architectural style of the home — and still creating that "perfect dream house" — may take a force greater than just you. This is where a

good design team can help. There is an array of knowledgeable folks out there who are trained to help you create a home that fits your personality. They know the products and procedures, and they learn all about you so they can come to understand what things would fit your lifestyle and personality.

Home design today is a huge undertaking for most people, so it deserves the same time, thought and effort that you would give to getting dressed for an important party. When planning what to wear, you choose clothes that are comfortable and in colors that look good on you, and then add accessories to enhance the outfit and create a finished look that you are happy with. Just do the same for your home, and you will love it.

After all, if it feels like you...it is you! ↑

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