

10 fall design and decor trends & tips from a pro

By Elaine Williamson

Interiors expert Elaine Williamson of Dallas-based Elaine Williamson Designs, an award-winning interiors group, offers tips on fall's newest trends.

1. Vintage accents.

What's old is new again. French-burlap is being utilized for chic pillows imprinted with a vintage stamped design or even a family initial. Accent chairs can also be seen covered in grey linen imprinted with vintage "document" script writing. Vintage couture lamps (and their replicas), especially those with milk glass and natural material bases, drum shades, and antique brass finials are very big. Aged, color-washed wood accessories are popular to accent and update a time-worn look.

2. Wallpaper!

Wallpaper is making a comeback. Choose bright and bold or subdued and elegant. Today's wallpapers are easy to apply and even easier to remove. Endless choices in both solids and patterns.

3. Timeless art.

Art doesn't have to be expensive but it should certainly have meaning. Buy what you love. Mix

mediums and styles. Remember...if you love it, it works!

4. Elemental color.

Neutrals are great for primary design elements like walls and baseline furnishings. Count on brightly colored and/or patterned pillows, rugs and other accessories to bring an otherwise bland space to life. These accessories can be readily transitioned for any given season.

5. Space simplification.

De-cluttering is the best way to gain control of your surroundings. Don't place too many items in a room by way of accessories, pillows, throw rugs, and family photos. Pick and choose very carefully the most important items and then pare down from there.

6. Rug rage.

Whatever style, shape, and design you can imagine there is an area rug within your reach. Even with wall-to-wall carpeting, place an area rug to establish a layered look and add depth and personality to a room and tie in other color components.

7. Bed basics.

Overstuffed pillows that seem to multiply in the night are out. Exquisite, neutral colored linens are in, especially when paired with a luxurious top blanket and a clean lined duvet. For more color, place two medium sized pillows in front of each sham.

8. Pillow talk.

Pillows are so versatile, they have become the ultimate interior design accessory. Choose an assortment for the spring and summer and other set for the fall and winter. It's an easy way to seasonally transition a room in a budget-friendly way.

9. Window treatments.

Don't overpower an otherwise streamlined room. Linen panels are very trendy and beautifully outline and soften windows. This classic and timeless fabric is now available in a staggering array of colors to coordinate with any interior palette.

10. Brass.

Antiqued brass and even antiqued gold have both made a large comeback on everything from drapery rods, to cocktail tables, to door and cabinet knobs to décor figurines. Brass reflects light, adds warmth and glow to any room.

Editor's Note: Elaine Williams can be reached online at www.ElaineWilliamsonDesigns.com.

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