

From Cindy's Desk

Color – Color – Color

I love color – I love the way it can make you feel and act. It can change your mood and even enhance (or detract) from your skin tone. Over the past 27 years as an interior designer, I have created houses and rooms in hundreds of color schemes. 99% of my customers love and want color too. Sometimes a client knows what color tones they want to create their home around, others have no clue. To get inside their heads, I ask a lot of questions about likes and dislikes, what colors they wear, and are in their closet, what colors their current rooms are decorated in, what they like from magazines and also their favorite color or colors? Do they like wall color or more neutrals for the walls with punches of color? Color on the walls can be very scary, to the novice, but with the help of an experienced designer, the effect can be stunning. I use a lot of wall colors and often select different colors for separate rooms – but the key to this is “flow”. The fabrics, rugs and accessories pull all the colors together, making the overall look “connected”. Patterned wallpaper is a great “connector”. If you use wallpaper with several colors you can select the colors for the surrounding rooms from that, and then the fabrics for those rooms also continue the same color scheme. Creating that much desired “flow”! If your connecting rooms don't carry even a few of the same colors, it can begin to look like a patchwork quilt. No “flow”! Not the desired result! For instance, a foyer wallpaper with six or so colors offers several options for each adjacent room.

Other things to consider when selecting paint colors:

- Most colors paint brighter than the paint chip.
- What direction does the room face? I.e. Sometimes blue is too cold in a north facing room.
- How much direct sun does the room get? I.e. Yellow may be too bright for a sunroom.
- Will the color be too dark? How much unbroken wall space there is, can help answer that.
- Can you handle the “drama” of color?
- What feeling do I want the room to convey? Happy and cheerful or dark and romantic?
- What will the room be used for? Does the color work for that use?

The designers at CJ Designs can help you with all your color needs, whether its wall color, wallcoverings, fabric, furniture, or just the right finishing touch for your home.

Here's to color!

Cindy