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ANNUAL DECORATING & RENOVATING GUIDE

40 ROOMS, 80 IDEAS
STYLE TIPS TO TRY AT HOME

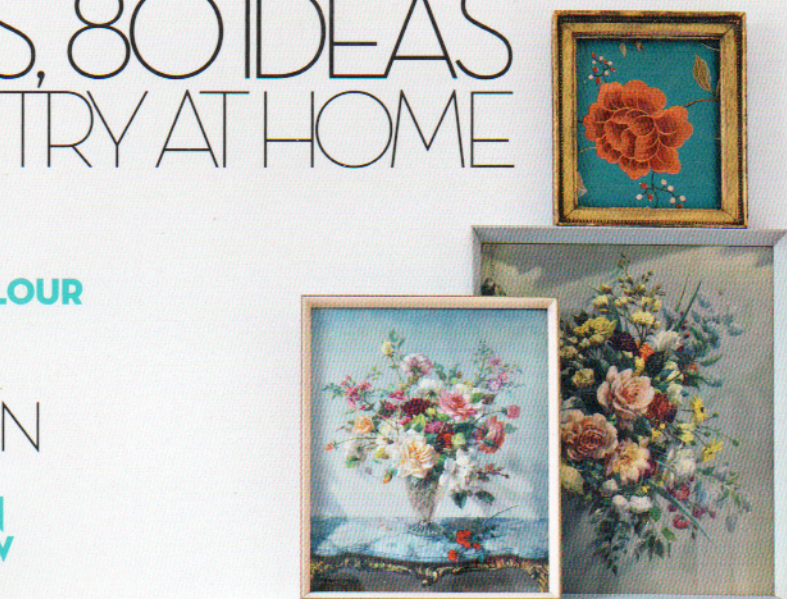
NATURE'S PAINTBOX
INSPIRATION FOR PERFECT COLOUR

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40 PERFECT ROOMS, 80 GREAT IDEAS

SOME OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL HOMES BORROW ELEMENTS FROM OTHER INTERIOR AND ARCHITECTURAL SHOWPLACES. HERE IS *INSIDE OUT*'S GALLERY OF GREAT IDEAS, SOURCED FROM 40 FABULOUS HOUSES. BE INSPIRED. BE VERY, VERY INSPIRED! WORDS JANA FRAWLEY

1. OVER & OVER

One of the simplest ways to bring out your inner stylist is to repeat, repeat, repeat. In the case of this room, the owner has taken an eccentric choice of fabric offcuts, vintage prints and paintings with a strong but disparate floral theme and displayed them in a collection of equally eclectic frames. (Take a trip to www.mitchellroadauctions.com to discover bric-a-brac and second-hand options for your own home.) The unconventional propping arrangement adds another element of visual appeal, as does the rug's bright florals. →





6. THE SHAPE OF THINGS

Thoughtful, intelligent choices make this room a picture of contemporary design success. First tick goes to the colour palette: variations on a theme of neutral. Second, goes to the simple combination of shapes: the repeated circles of the stools, lamp and pendant lights (check out the Le Klint collection at www.funkis.com for a similar range), the angular table and sideboard and the massed cylindrical candles. Third tick to the investment in a selection of timeless furniture – perfect here, now and forever.



14. STRIPE TEASE

If you usually follow the play-it-safe, paint-it-white approach to design, set yourself free by starting to experiment with colour and pattern in a small space. This study has been given a very playful personality through retro-style wallpaper plus tonally similar painted stripes [for other ideas, visit Colour My World at www.bristol.com.au for colour-scheme cards]. The accessories – stacked green storage cases, chocolate desk lamp, vintage postcard, red chair and timber fawn – add unity and whimsy.





7. INTO THE WOODS

7 INTO THE WOODS

If you want to depart from the clinical, stark-white and chrome of many modern kitchens, consider this exceedingly warm and inviting concept: floor-to-ceiling timber veneer cabinetry and walls (talk to the experts at New Age Veneers, www.newageveneers.com.au, for information) punctuated by white stone benchtops, stainless-steel appliances and simple door handles. Chunky open shelves above the sink provide additional storage while offering the perfect opportunity to break up the darkness of the walls of wood.

8 BACKWARDS & FORWARDS

The oft-celebrated marriage between old and new and the union of minimalist white and maximalist busy pattern succeed in this room. The feature wallpaper (try Verve Designer Collections at www.vervedc.com for a contemporary take on classic prints) has the air of a grand English drawing room, but pairing it all with casually strewn cushions, corner seating and a contemporary light fitting, brings the room convincingly into the modern day.

9 NOW YOU SEE IT ...

Finesse your improvisation skills and effective and practical design solutions will follow. Here, the owners took up the book-storage challenge by utilising free floor space. The Bertioia wire chair is another inspired choice, giving the illusion of invisibility and, therefore, seeming to take up less space. Other see-through options include furniture made from glass or heavy-duty plastic (try visiting www.spacefurniture.com.au to check out the fun and edgy range from celebrated Italian design house Kartell). →



8. BACKWARDS & FORWARDS



9. NOW YOU SEE IT ...