

DESIGNING IN STYLE

A HOME THAT WELCOMES: THOUGHTFUL DESIGN FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

The holidays bring people together—and the way your home is designed can make those gatherings more comfortable and enjoyable. Perhaps you love hosting, but everyone gathers where you need to prepare dinner. Your dining room looks beautiful, yet moving around the table feels awkward. Or your guest room is ready, but it could feel more comfortable and personal.

Throughout November and December, I'm helping you design "A Home That Welcomes." I'll share ideas for thoughtful updates, holiday styling, and design decisions that help your home feel inviting while supporting the way you live and entertain.

Here's what we'll explore throughout the season.

Make Your Home Feel More Inviting For Guests: Before purchasing anything new, look at how your furniture supports gathering. Can guests comfortably face one another? Is there a convenient surface for a drink? Can someone walk through the room without interrupting a conversation?

Repositioning chairs, adjusting the distance between furnishings, and clearing pathways can make a room more comfortable. Layered lighting adds warmth and gives different areas a purpose, helping guests feel at ease.

Holiday Hosting - Revealing What Your Kitchen Needs:

The holidays put your kitchen to work—and reveal how well it supports you. Notice whether you have enough prep space, where serving dishes compete with cooking activities, and how easily you can access platters, utensils, and glassware. Pay attention to where guests gather and whether they interrupt your work area.



Change the Experience of Your Room Through Lighting:

Lighting can transform how a room feels and how comfortably you use it. Repositioning a lamp can improve reading light or brighten an overlooked corner. A thoughtfully selected new fixture can provide needed illumination while complementing the room's proportions and materials. Compatible dimmers also allow you to adjust from brighter task lighting to a softer evening atmosphere.



A Well-Planned Dining Room = A Beautiful Holiday Table

A beautifully set table is most enjoyable when everyone can sit and move comfortably.

Consider the table's proportions, the width of your chairs, and the space needed to pull them out. Walk around the room with the seating arranged for your gathering. Can you reach the buffet and serve dinner easily? Also, the lighting should complement the table and illuminate guests comfortably. Keep centerpieces at a height that allows conversation, and leave enough space for place settings and serving pieces.

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Holiday Styling That Complements Your Interior:

Trees, greenery, and mantel arrangements can bring the season into your home in a way that feels connected to its existing design. Consider the scale of your tree and its placement before moving furniture. Use greenery to highlight architectural features, and give mantel arrangements enough space to be appreciated.

Carry a seasonal palette through adjoining rooms, and thoughtfully incorporate holiday pieces alongside your existing furnishings. Temporarily putting away some everyday accessories can give meaningful seasonal pieces a stronger presence.



Seasonal Color That Works With Your Home

Your existing interior offers a starting point for holiday color.

Look at the undertones in your furnishings, flooring, and finishes. Warm woods may pair beautifully with bronze, burgundy, and greenery, while navy upholstery might inspire blue, soft white, and gold.

Repeat selected colors across the tree, mantel, and dining area to create cohesion. Connect materials, too: velvet ribbon can relate to upholstery, metallic accents can echo hardware, and natural textures can complement wood finishes.

A Guest Room That's Thoughtfully Designed:

A comfortable guest room anticipates the details visitors might otherwise have to ask about. Provide privacy through appropriate window treatments, accessible bedside lighting, and a convenient place for luggage. Clear space for clothing and personal belongings, and make charging outlets easy to reach.

Layer bedding so guests can adjust their comfort. Keep the route to the bathroom clear, and consider gentle nighttime lighting to help them navigate an unfamiliar space.

Decide What You Need to Make Easier Next Year?

As you host, take note of what works beautifully and what requires extra effort. Choose three priorities for the coming year. Perhaps you want easier entertaining, a more functional kitchen, a private retreat, or better lighting.

Those priorities can guide a cohesive renovation plan, helping you connect individual decisions to a larger vision rather than making purchases one at a time.



A home that welcomes is shaped by thoughtful details—the ease of moving between rooms, the warmth of layered lighting, a comfortable place to gather, and the traditions that make it yours.

I hope you explore ways to bring these elements together so you can enjoy your home and the people you share it with.

Whether you're ready for a few purposeful updates or envisioning a larger transformation, let's begin with a Consultation and discover how your home can better support the way you live, host, and celebrate.