

Decorator's Notebook

Trade In Dull Decorating: Designers' Favorite Tricks

(NAPSA)—Like most professionals, interior designers have favorite techniques they adapt to a variety of situations. Here are some tried and true decorating tricks for every area of a room.

“Always put color on the ceiling,” says D.D. McClendon of Brava Designs Studio, Oak Park, Ill. “Choose subtly patterned wallpaper or pale-tinted paint that relates to the colors on the walls. Don’t be afraid to add a substantial rug—even a small Oriental—to the powder room,” she adds. “It gives an unexpected texture in contrast to tile. Horizontal planes, such as chair rail molding or striped wallpaper, installed sideways, make a small room seem larger. Move artwork and mirrors around to change perspective and refresh a room,” says McClendon.

Other designers like to incorporate elements of surprise. Insert one square glass votive candle holder within a line-up of identical round ones along a mantel. Add dimensional art, such as a metal sculpture, wood carving, or patterned plate, amidst a cluster of prints. Install a wall-hung vase containing a single rose.

Self-adhesive mounting products with Command adhesive from 3M make it easy to hang—and rearrange—art and small objects on a wall. Sawtooth and wirebacked picture hangers hold framed art and wire plate-holders. You can display framed photos, artwork, diplomas and awards that are mounted on wood with the new Command adhesive interlocking fasteners. Attach one yellow fastener to the wall and the other to the frame or wood so that the strips snap together.



A wall vignette helps decorate a room handsomely. Here, self-stick sawtooth picture hangers and a white deco hook, both with Command adhesive from 3M, hold the Staffordshire plates and tin of flowers. When properly removed, they leave no hole, mark or residue on the wall. Use them again with Command adhesive removable mounting strips. Art prints hang from 3M interlocking fasteners.

Poster strips and spring clips secure unframed art, and 3M self-stick hooks come in several sizes and colors. Suspend lightweight sculptures or frames from decorative ribbon, tied to hooks.

When properly removed, the products leave no hole, mark or sticky residue. They not only help hang elements in an ever-changing, seasonal vignette, they also let you try out arrangements to determine which look best.

For more decorating ideas, call 1-800-577-8778 for a free brochure, “For the Times of Your Life,” or visit www.commandadhesive.com.