

REFRESHER

How to incorporate the newest styles into your home without being too trendy

COURSE

By Heidi Sherratt Bogart, Interior Visions

There is a new wave of innovative ideas in interior design every year, and design trends, colors and styles can come and go quickly. These new trends pose a difficult design challenge because as much as you want to incorporate the latest style, you need to be cautious. Trends in design generally do not stand the test of time, but some will stick around for quite a while and are a breath of fresh air from the overdone old ideas.

Do not feel pressured to follow the latest trends when designing your home, but consider using them in small ways. What works best is to choose trendy design ideas that are easily changed. Paint colors, lighting fixtures, cabinet knobs and pulls, small furniture pieces and decorative items like pillows, throws, lamp shades, rugs and towels are all great ways to integrate the fun new trends without having to remodel your house every year.

In a perfect world we could completely redo our houses every two to five years to incorporate all the brilliant new styles, but for most of us that is not a reality. It is important to design a home that you will love and works well with your lifestyle.

When choosing the more significant items like flooring, cabinets and countertops, look to traditional and simple styles. These are difficult and costly to change easily. Then you can add in trendy colors and styles after you are confident they work for you and your home.

HERE ARE A FEW OF THE TOP INTERIOR DESIGN TRENDS FOR THIS YEAR.

1

Color

Marsala is the official Pantone Color of the Year for 2015—it's a naturally robust and earthy red wine color. Accents of this color will bring an element of sophistication to your home. This wine-hued color follows a shift in design from youthful and bright to a more natural subdued tone.

However, the overall trend in color is natural, soft and warm. Pantone Color Institute's executive director Leatrice Eiseman describes the trend for the year. "This season, cooler and softer color choices with subtle warm tones follow a minimalistic en plein air theme, taking a cue from nature."

As the world gets busier and we are all so "connected" by technology, the draw to nature and the need to disconnect has become stronger. There is a move toward the cooler and softer side of the color spectrum. Understated, ethereal pale pastels and nature-like neutrals are reminiscent of simpler times and help restore a sense of wellbeing. These minimalistic, soft warm tones help create a soothing escape from life's everyday chaos.

2

Sophisticated Luxury

Sophistication is hot in the interior design world for this next year. Staying traditional but using new materials and fresh colors with a blend of the old and the new is a smart way to think about design.

Creating comfortable and romantic spaces by layering plush textures, unusual fabric, natural wall coverings, and ethnic touches create a mature elegance. The key is to use natural color schemes with stunning accents.

Using hints of exotic and ethnic motifs adds patterns and texture and shows off an artistic detail.

Antiques mixed with contemporary design bring the old and the new together in a gorgeous classic retro blend.

Natural materials—stone, wood, glass, leather, metal and woven decorative items—dominate interior design trends. Reclaimed wood mixed with stone and metal are popular, especially rustic wood. Luxurious white marble with hints of color in the subtle natural veining is the most luxurious stone and defines this classy interior trend.

3

Mixed Metals

Warm metals including copper, rose gold and cool silver are popular right now. You do not have to match metal finishes in every room; in fact, layering metals with the silvery, gold and black metals is stylish.

These subtle metallic details are adding to the luxurious sophisticated movement. Think of these metal elements in your plumbing fixtures, cabinet hardware and bathroom accessories as jewelry for your home.

4

Fusion of Styles

Your home should be a reflection of your personality—what you truly feel comfortable living in and not what you see in a catalog. It is important to create living spaces that are original and unique to you and your family by integrating styles. Your home is a direct channel of your unique individuality and character, and it is okay to be risky and add some bold elements that feel good to you.

Heidi Sherratt Bogart has been the owner of Interior Visions in Crested Butte since 1994. She holds a degree in journalism and interior decorating and enjoys her work as an interior designer in the Gunnison Valley.