

# It's in the DETAILS



**WHEN IT COMES TO GOOD DESIGN, DETAILS COUNT. HERE'S HOW TO WORK THE FINAL TOUCHES WITHOUT OBSESSING AND GET A PERSONALIZED HOME DÉCOR THAT WORKS FOR YOU.**

BY KRIS BRIGDEN

**L**isten to your space and see it with fresh eyes this fall. Experiment with adding a bit of personality and colour here and there. Worry more about how you love it and how it feels, than how it compares to a magazine. Your accessories and your home should reflect your personality.

Recently, I was at a client's to discuss design plans for the new entryway of her home. While walking through the living room she stopped me, picked up a small flower arrangement off a bookshelf and slid it to the other side. She asked: "Does it look better here or over there?"

The truth is we can fixate on our home accessories. The retail environment mixed with design television shows focus strongly on the importance of accessorizing, layering and staying current.

Long gone are the days of vintage living rooms. Today's homeowners are progressive and savvy when updating their spaces. However they often get caught up with the little things instead of focusing on the big picture. Here are 10 tips to help update your space with budget conscious accessories that make a big impact.



- 1** | Listen to your space. Walk in the front door like you have never seen the house before. Ask yourself what looks tired or dated? Make a list for short term fixes versus long term plans.
- 2** | Change or add up some fresh pillows and throws and lamp shades to make a quick impact.
- 3** | Go bold with your accessories and add in textures and strong colours. Change things up seasonally.
- 4** | Big box home stores and small boutiques offer a bevy of collectables and tabletop items at reasonable price points.
- 5** | Think in terms of triangle shapes. This works well with lamp placement and display pieces. It feels organized and purposeful.
- 6** | Rugs are often neglected as an accessory, however they're a great investment and help ground a space.

- 7** | When arranging vignettes on a bookshelf or coffee table, group items in three's or odd numbers and think about the overall effect. Don't worry about a single piece – look at it like a full story. Keep like colours together and vary heights – small, medium and high.
- 8** | Inexpensive art is easily accessible. Make sure it has a relationship in theme or colour to your new pillows. Go big for impact; a large frameless canvas also works well.
- 9** | Design on a dime does not always work. You need time to plan your story. It doesn't have to come together in an afternoon, like on television.
- 10** | Use pretty storage items like baskets and bowls. Repeat in quantity not only to look decorative, but also to help keep away the clutter.