

## Tips for creating your dream room:

I am asked time and time again how to get started on a room makeover as it can seem like an overwhelming task. If you will follow the plan below, it makes this a fun and rewarding challenge

Things you will need:

- roomy and attractive carryall
- note pad and pencil with eraser (I like mechanical pencils)
- loose-leaf notebook with pockets and plastic sleeves
- tape measure (metal, not plastic or type seamstresses use)
- camera
- 1/4 scale graph paper (optional)

Tear out pages from current decorating magazines that illustrate the look you are wanting.....or that show specific items you love. (I know, you never tear out the pages, you put in a bookmark or dog-ear the page thinking later you'll come back to it. But, honestly, can you ever find it when you want to see it again?)

If you want to do your own shopping and designing, you will need to measure your room. Draw a rough outline, showing doors and windows. Measure each wall and where the doors and windows are located on the walls. Measure width, height and distance from the floor of each window. How high is the ceiling? Next measure any furniture that you will be keeping in the room. If you are adept at this sort of thing, next do a scale drawing of the room, placing the windows and doors in the proper places and indicating if the doors swing in or out. Now draw the retained furniture on a separate piece of graph paper, cut them out and with a dot of rubber cement put them in place in your room drawing. Now you should be able to see where your bare spots are. Perhaps you already know what pieces you need to finish your room. In that case, time to go shopping!!! Finally the actual fun begins. Notice I haven't mentioned wall color yet. For some reason everyone thinks that is the first thing you select. Wrong. It is pretty much the last thing. Think about it.....there are millions of colors of paint, but only so many selections of fabrics or rugs. Select your main pattern in the room, whether that be a large rug, a sofa with a design, or perhaps a large piece of art. Then go from there, selecting things that complement and enhance it. Only then are you ready to pick the perfect paint or wallcovering.

If your needs are rugs and artwork, then you must give our gallery a thorough once-over. We have numerous rugs in stock-and even better, can order you the perfect size and style to fit your needs. Even have it shipped directly to your home! If it is large and you need assistance, we will deliver and install it. Keep in mind, I'm out on appointments, consultations and installations some days, so if you feel you need help selecting that perfect rug, please call ahead and set up an appointment to meet me in the

store. Please bring your drawing, paint sample (if the room is already painted), and samples of any upholstery in the room.

We carry many styles of oil painting, already framed. I hand select each frame to complement the image, but you are certainly welcome to request a different style or color. A very exciting idea we use a lot is using a photograph of your child, home, pet or perhaps a favorite vacation photo and having an artist render it in oil. What a wonderful way to have a permanent reminder of that special moment in time.

If furniture is your need to complete the room, please come to Mobley Fine Furniture and one of the talented designers/salespeople will gladly show you around. Take a few moments to show them your inspiration photos and your room drawing. If there are budget limitations (and of course there always are), please advise them so they can steer you to the perfect piece.

I hope this helps you understand the thought process of designing a room. Please call me or anyone at Mobley if you have any additional questions.

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