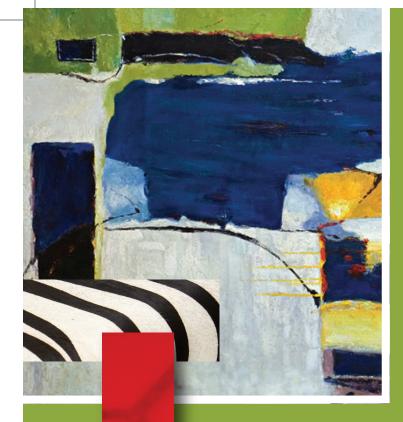
HOME^{by}design



HOME DESIGN TRENDS

"Interior design and decor trends change with every season," notes Elaine Williamson of Elaine Williamson Designs. "But, with a strategic foundation of baseline elements like furniture and flooring, you can easily keep up with the trends without sacrificing essential style elements of the space." Read on for Williamson's tips for designing a room that can keep up with the trends.

1. Furniture with good bones: Instead of purchasing furniture to serve one particular style purpose for a specific room, Williamson suggests selecting high-quality pieces of furniture that have desirable, style-transcendent bones with the intent to reupholster as fashions change.

2. Current colors: Williamson's favorite current color combination is gray and yellow. Gray, a rather neutral color, works well as a base color on upholstered furniture, she says, while yellow, best utilized in small bursts, serves as an eye-catching pop of color.

3. See the light: Lighting is currently making a huge push in the marketplace, Williamson says. As many homeowners have embraced cleaner lines, overhead lighting such as pendants and chandeliers have become popular. Beautiful materials, unique shapes, and versatile sizes make for a fitting focal point.

4. Ground control: Wood floors are ever popular, along with other types of natural flooring such as bamboo, travertine, limestone, and honed marble. "I am seeing and using natural gemstones in flooring as well," Williamson notes. "Tiger's eye, sodalite, malachite, and mother of pearl are just a few of these fabulous materials being put to creative flooring use."