

HOW TO STYLE YOUR LIVING AREAS

BY

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Our current lifestyles see the living spaces in our homes become more than just a place to relax and entertain; it's a reflection of our values, personality, and connection to the natural world.

With that in mind, I present to you my top tips for styling your living spaces whether that be the living room or dining area. These ideas will help you create authentic interiors that are unique to your tastes and are well considered. These tips can be applied across any room in your home.

So, let's embark on a journey of creativity and start reimagining the way your home looks and feels.

Stacey x



PLACEMENT OF FURNITURE

- Move sofas and chairs away from walls - if you are able. Bring pieces together in an arrangement to create a convivial and intimate space or ‘zone’.
- Use a rug to help create the ‘zone’ to anchor furniture.
- Create focal points such as a statement sofa or an a large table lamp to draw attention and create visual interest.
- Leave enough space between furniture pieces to ensure a sense of openness, prevent overcrowding and allow for flow of foot traffic.
- Ensure furniture is of varying heights so you eye can travel up and down, as opposed to al pieces at the same level/scale.



EDITING

- Less is often more – declutter and curate decor items to avoid visual overload.
- Only display those pieces that bring you joy and remind you of good times/memories and that are aesthetically pleasing.
- Negative space and a clutter-free environment allow the eye to rest and appreciate key design elements.
- Ensure you have appropriate storage to hide away any unsightly items. Make sure the storage itself is visually pleasing.



COLOUR

- Choose a harmonious colour palette that resonates with the desired mood and ambiance of the room.
- Look at your wardrobe for colours you love to wear - they are the colours you will also like to be surrounded in.
- Use the 60-30-10 rule: 60% dominant color, 30% secondary color, and 10% accent color for a balanced and visually pleasing color scheme.
- Start with the colours in a piece of artwork or a fabric and set your colour scheme from that.

WINDOW TREATMENTS

- Choose window treatments that enhance the room's style and control light, warmth and darkness as needed.
- Hang curtains at the highest point to create visual height.
- Don't be skimpy with fabric - voluminous drapes look much more lush.
- Where space is an issue, blinds are your best bet eg. Roman or roller blinds.
- Sheer curtains are a great option for light filtering or tv watching. Pair with a blackout fabric behind on a second track.
- Seek a professional for measuring to ensure a successful result.



A MIX OF OLD & NEW

- Combining antique or vintage pieces with modern furniture adds character and a sense of history to the space.
- The mix of old and new creates an eclectic and curated look that reflects personal style and not like a ‘show home’.
- Pieces of furniture with a patina or age provide textural interest as well as a point of difference.

ART

- Artwork serves as a focal point and can set the tone for the room's aesthetic.
- Consider the scale of the art in relation to the available wall space for proper visual balance.
- Mix different types of art, such as paintings, sculptures, and photographs, to create a diverse and captivating display.
- Create a gallery wall if you want to display several pieces.
- Frame your child's artwork in a beautiful frame.



TEXTURE

- Incorporating a mix of textures such as soft fabrics, rough wood, smooth metals, and tactile materials adds depth and visual interest.
- Textured elements create a sense of tactility and warmth, making the space feel inviting.
- Balance is key – combining different textures prevents the design from feeling monotonous and flat.
- Try to bring in as many textures as you can through fabrics in cushions, drapes, flooring and hard surfaces.

SHAPES

- Employ a variety of shapes in furniture, decor, and architectural details to add dynamism to the interior.
- Contrasting biophilic shapes, such as pairing angular furniture with curved decor, can create an engaging visual rhythm.
- Repeating certain shapes throughout the space lends a sense of cohesion and unity.

SCALE

- Properly scaled furniture and decor ensure that the room feels proportionate and harmonious.
- Play with different sizes of items whether it be furniture or accessories - too many small pieces will feel it'sy bitsy.
- Go large where you can and make a statement whether that be a piece of art, a vase or even a pot plant.
- Place items together in varying heights, for example decorative elements on a shelf.



LIGHTING

- Layered lighting, including ambient, task, and accent lighting, adds depth and dimension to the interior.
- Select light fixtures that complement the overall design style while providing adequate illumination.
- Dimmers allow control over the intensity of light, enabling adjustment for different activities and moods.
- Try a mix of lamps such as a table lamp and floor lamp so you don't always need to rely on your overhead lighting.

A modern dining room with light wood flooring, a wooden dining table, and a large paper lantern pendant light. The room features a large window with light-colored curtains, a dark wood side table with a white vase of red berries, and a large potted plant in the foreground.

FLOORING

- Flooring materials like hardwood, tiles, or carpets contribute to the room's overall texture and style.
- Consider the color and pattern of the flooring to complement the rest of the design elements.
- Rugs can define specific areas and add a cozy layer while breaking up large expanses of flooring.

NEED HELP?

If you need help with your home, please reach out to me I would be happy to have a chat with you or book in a consultation.

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