



LIFE AT HOME

DECOR • DOMESTIC ARTS • RENOVATIONS • RENTALS • RESALE

EDITOR: LISA MONFORTON 235-7428 FAX: 235-7379

WWW.CALGARYHERALD.COM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2007

AROUND THE HOUSE

Nurture ideas at home, garden show

EVENT • It's not right around the corner, but we can start dreaming about spring now. The Calgary Home & Garden Show returns to The Roundup Centre March 1 to 4, promising gardening, landscaping and home renovations for Calgary homeowners.

The show will host more than 450 exhibitors showcasing design and gardening solutions. Celebrity renovation and design experts, such as local Alykhan Velji from HGTV's *The Style Dept.* and Sarah Richardson from design inc., will be on hand to dish up design advice and weigh in on decor trends.

The show's special features include the New Product Showcase, which features the latest gadgets in renovation and gardening; and New Spring Fling, an exhibit full of ideas for turning a basic backyard into an urban oasis.

For show times and admission details, go to calgaryhome-show.com.

— Calgary Herald

Be smart about updating your home

BOOK • Smart technology and eco-products are among the thousands of ideas presented in *Interior Design Details: 1,000 New Ideas for the Home*. (Harper-Collins Publishers, \$49.95 Cdn)

It's a comprehensive guide to picking the right elements for restyling a home. Design details for kitchens, walls, bathrooms, ceilings, stairs, doors and lighting are covered. Included are works of Frank Gehry and Daniel Libeskind, among others.

— McClatchy Newspapers



Photo courtesy, Matt Gignon

The Paper table has slots for all your favourite publications.

A table fit for news

DECOR • Matt Gagnon uses recycled newsprint boards to create this arresting coffee table, he calls the Paper table. Various incisions into the block of newsprint form storage spaces for various objects, books and of course, your newspaper.

The Paper table measures just over a metre in length and the newsprint is sealed with an oil finish.

Gagnon graduated from architecture school at Cornell University and has worked for renowned designers such as Gaetano Pesce and Frank Gehry. He explores materials, movement and proportion in his design and architecture. For more examples of his work, visit www.mattstudio.com.

— Shafraaz Kaba
For CanWest News Service



FRESH LOOKS

STYLE CURRENTS

FEB. 10 • Bold and beautiful patterns
FEB. 17 • Pop Asia: East meets West
TODAY • Five trends to try on

LISA KADANE • CALGARY HERALD

Part wow, part green and a mixing up of everything in between, is a good way to describe some of the hottest decor trends for 2007. From making a statement by hanging a black crystal chandelier, to marrying Grandma's antique trestle dining table to eight sleek new leather chairs, home decorating this year is as extravagant as it is eclectic. The Herald talked with local designers to uncover five new ways to keep the homefront fresh.

cautions

Riley. "I would go with accessories."

To achieve that classic look of contrast, Riley suggests displaying a black and white area rug, stylized vase, ceramic decorative balls or throw cushions; items that can be changed out when black and white fades to grey.

Ceiling art

What's big, bulky and hangs from the ceiling like a piece of art? If you answered, "A macrame plant holder," you need to keep reading this story. The real answer is: a chandelier.

"The chandelier has such a grandiose, almost Hollywood, over-scaled, grand hotel feel to it. It makes a statement," says Robert Sweep of Robert Sweep Home Furnishings.

His store displays hand-made wrought-iron chandeliers, ultra-modern versions of stainless steel and bunches of crystals, and those constructed of interlocking deer antlers. By dangling solo as ceiling art, they do far more than just shine light on dinner, says Sweep.

Besides, chandeliers are beginning to migrate from the dining room, taking up residence in other spaces.

Andrea Raimondi, president of Calgary-based Ingenium Design Group, has installed beefy "statement" chandeliers into clients' entryways, master bedrooms and ensuite bathrooms. The idea is to achieve a balance between illumination, ambiance and art, she says.

Though clean-lined, brushed chrome-stemmed, linen-sided chandeliers are gaining in popularity, Raimondi says traditional crystal

chandeliers, like those available at French Connection Fine Antiques, will always be in style. The difference is, you might hang one in your kitchen.

Something old, something new

"Out with the old, in with the new" is a good mantra, if you're moving on with your life after a failed relationship or hairstyle.

If you're applying it to interior design, however, you may want to do a double take of your current collection. Old and new, or antique and modern pieces, can work wonders together, says Julian Riley of Maria Tomas, a Calgary furniture and design store.

Because the latest look is not having a look.

SEE FRESH, PAGE G2

It's black and white

"I remember my Miami Vice bedroom," says Rob Kurkut with a laugh.

His 1980s TV-show inspired boudoir, which attempted to create a chic space through the use of black and white checks and bold punches of colour, was that decade's take on the enduring colour combo.

"It's a classic palette," says Kurkut, visual merchandiser for French Connection Fine Antiques.

"People associate black with sophistication and white with cleanliness and purity."

He says the look never really goes away, it just reinvents itself. In the 1950s, it was black and white linoleum flooring. In 2007, look for classic pieces such as Bergere chairs with wood frames stained black or black crystal chandeliers. For the really gutsy, try a black-and-white-striped statement couch like the one on display at French Connection.

But like all design trends, moderation is key.

"I wouldn't do a whole room in black and white,"

HOME DECOR

Tips to tart up your pad

JEANI READ

CANWEST NEWS SERVICE

Here are the top 10 home-fixing and freshening tips from Colin McAllister and Justin Ryan, that wacky but talented duo from the hit HGTV show, *How Not to Decorate*.

1. Make a plan: Put together a "mood board," a scrapbook of ideas that tries out colour direction and different combinations of texture and styles. Magazine cuttings and fabric swatches are arranged beside carpet samples and photographs to decide what works.

2. Colour it bigger: To increase the feeling of space in a room use cool colours and paint all aspects of the room — including baseboards and mouldings — the same shade. Painting a low ceiling two or three shades lighter than the walls increases the feeling of height.

3. Trick the eye: To increase space and light you must allow natural light to flood through windows without obstruction. So it's goodbye to clusters of windowsill ornaments and heavy curtains and hello to clear surfaces with smart blinds or simple drapes. Use mirrors to reflect and in-

tensify the amount of natural daylight and place them opposite windows for maximum effect.

4. Lighten up: Lighting should be used to create atmosphere or opt for something more versatile than a single pendant hanging from the centre of the ceiling. A spread of spotlights can add a modern touch to the dowdiest of rooms. Install a dimmer switch to alter the mood from floodlit to cosy cool. Lighting can also highlight architecture, paintings and furniture.

SEE TIPS, PAGE G2



Calgary Herald Archive

Keep windows clear of heavy draperies and blinds to increase space use natural light. This will give the appearance of a larger space.

samcorea

Marketing your home for all it's worth™

403-870-8811

www.samsluxuryhomes.com

RE/MAX
HOUSE OF REAL ESTATE

Discovery Ridge \$775,000



32 Discovery Ridge Crescent, SW
Excellent, quiet location, backing linear park. This 2528 s.f. 2-storey has a dev'd basement & offers 3 + 1 bdrms, den, bonus room & a total of 3500 s.f. of living space with granite counters, 2 fireplaces, in-floor heat, central air conditioning.

Strathcona 895,000



66 Strathridge Way, SW
2860 s.f. 2-storey + recent basement development with media room, wet bar/wine cellar, exercise room & steam room with dual shower heads! 4 upper bedrooms, main floor den, kitchen w/ granite counters, quiet street, sunny west backyard.

Discovery Ridge \$1,190,000



8 Discovery Ridge Cove, SW
Large executive home on exclusive gated street, siding a grove of trees & a few steps to Griffiths Woods Park & the river! 1984 s.f. bungalow + dev'd walkout, 3500 s.f. total, professionally decorated, elegant, huge yard, outdoor fireplace.