

The Changing Face Of Interior Design



When discussing interior design, one often equates many hours of planning and preparing as well as a drain on the bank account with the redesign of a home's interior. That trying to create a warm, inviting ambiance throughout one's home should be left to the professionals. Professionals who have the certifications, resumes and degrees to prove that their training and skills justify their price of service in the art of interior design.

So what is the everyday person supposed to do who doesn't have the budget to hire a professional interior designer or maybe they have the budget but just isn't ready to spend it? Well, Las Vegas Home Needs spoke with Gail Mayhugh of, "GMJ Interiors" to help shed some light on the subject.

Gail's company has designed over two million square feet of space within the past ten years. She has extensive experience with everything ranging from thirty thousand square foot office buildings to over two hundred model homes for the residential home market. Through her web site, Gail has been able to help designs students in Europe and even as far as Iraq. "Thanks to Christopher Lowell and HGTV," Gail told us, "The Do-It-Yourself mentality is pretty prevalent today. People have more confidence when undertaking interior design projects." Thanks to cable, the Internet and more traditional mediums like

magazines, people can now find everything they need to know when it comes to interior design for their home. "People are just better informed today, so they won't just take your word for it."

So does this mean that a "do-it-yourselfer" no longer has



Simple accessories can transform the mood of a room, like the safari accessories above, without incurring the cost of a large scale safari design.

any use for an interior designer? Of course not. "A person who wants to undertake an interior design project themselves should take advantage of the consulting an interior designer may offer." Gail finds that a lot of the consulting she does for her clients gives them the confidence to move forward on their own. "I find a lot of times that I am hired to help someone choose the correct paint color and textures for their walls." Decisions about color schemes and paints should be made correctly. There is nothing worse than finishing a project and finding out that your paint color is slightly off from the rest of the interior décor. "Plus there are many to hiring an interior designer as a consultant. A lot of times designers have discounts available to them at local retail stores. Some designers, when accompanying a client to one of their suppliers, will pass their discount over to them, saving them a lot of money in the process. "I could have saved one of my customers over four hundred dollars had they just



Subtle accessories like the barrel pictured above, can help to create a warm western feel.

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Simple plants placed strategically can create moods like this Mediterranean design above.

taken me with them to the places they bought their interior furniture." Some designers can also keep you informed of the latest trends and can give helpful advice as to where to find them. Gail even goes as far as to supply a resource booklet for her clients, helping them to find suppliers in town that provide specific products for specific tastes.

"If you don't have the budget to redesign your home, one might want to think of hiring an interior arranger. It is also known as, 'one day decorating.'" Gail told us. As of now, Gail is the only licensed interior arranger in Nevada. "With arranging, you don't need knew furniture." An interior arranger will help to open up a room. Sometimes, when you are so used to seeing the same furniture and accessories on a daily basis it is hard to look at them in a new light. An interior arranger can find ways to give your interior a new, warm, inviting look just by changing the arrangement of you furniture. "If I do any rearrangements on a clients house, I like to leave a wish list of things for them to buy in the future when they are able to budget for it."

Gail had a quick response when asked about designing on a budget, "Use

consignment stores." At these stores you can find quality used resale items at very competitive costs. An advantage to buying on consignment is the fact that you can decorate with the incoming trends, and as new trends come into fashion you can sell back the

furniture to consignment stores and purchase furniture that is more applicable to the current trend. "Don't decorate with the trends." Gail told us, when asked about interior decorating, "Use classic long lasting designs that are more timeless." When decorating for your home always try to use classic long lasting designs for your interior's foundation. This way you will not find yourself constantly refreshing the interior of your home. If you are looking to give your home the feel of a current trend, then focus on the accessories. By accessorizing with the trends, you not only save money, but when it is time to redesign the interior of your home, you can easily replace the trend without upsetting the homes interior design foundation. "Right now, 'Fusion' seems to be the interior style that seems to be in demand right now." Gail told us.

Fusion is a combination of both exotic and traditional looks. So if this is a look you wish to obtain in your home, then find accents that bring out the best in both. So remember, interior designers are not just for the exclusive homes anymore. Many designers, like Gail Mayhugh,



Before this room was redecorated, the window treatments were miss-matched and the walls added nothing to the feel of the room.

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Now, with the wall painted and the clutter around the fireplace removed, a simple rearrangement of the existing furniture transforms this room with new life.

have catered their businesses to helping the average home resident in servicing their interior design needs. From consultation to rearranging, don't think a designer isn't available for you and whatever your Las Vegas home needs may be. To learn more about Gail Mayhugh, log onto her web site at www.gmjinteriors.com. If there is more information about interior design that you would like to know about, let us know by sending an e-mail to info@lasvegashomeneeds.com and don't forget to look up our website at www.lasvegashomeneeds.com for other information regarding needs for the residential home market in Las Vegas.