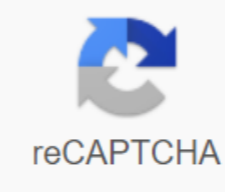




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Quotes about home decor

For some, this is the fun part, for others who decide which color to paint, or where to put the couch is as stressful as going to the dentist. Either way, HowStuffWorks has got you covered with tips, tricks and cold compresses. Decorating with color reveals quite a lot about a person. Right now you're probably wearing your favorite hue - taupe, lavender, pink? Studies have shown that the color, in all aspects of our lives, affects us emotionally and physically. Orange, for example, stimulates appetite. Do not be surprised if you find yourself feeling hungry in a kitchen or a restaurant that has painted the color of morning juice. People tend to be more up in red rooms, more subdued in those that are blue. The hospital rooms are often painted a pale, calm green, a shade of well-being. With color, you can manipulate proportions and moods in a room, making it seem smaller or larger, taller or more intimate. On the whole, the rooms are washed with an abundance of natural light best painted either white or a pale color; darker rooms are more attractive in a rich, warm color. No light in the kitchen? Buttery yellow walls can bring in the sun. Do you have a hall upstairs that is too long and too narrow? An end wall painted a warm marigold color will remove the gloomy corridor feeling forever. Tones of sand and blue-gray together are like a day on the coast. Dazzling jewel tones add shine. Historical colors such as ochre, reds and blues (Williamsburg blue is at the top of the charts) conjure up period backgrounds. All that is said, color can often seem the most confusing aspect of decorating. Overwhelmed by hundreds of choices, you've probably forgotten that, unlike many other items you might not be too excited with like the tiles on the floor or shingles on the roof, the wrong color paint is easily rectified. If you don't like it, pick up the brush and try again. Instead of being intimidated by color, use it to forge rooms that make you happy every single day. Swirls color wheel You will feel more confident if you understand how colors interact with each other. The physicist Isaac Newton developed the first color wheel way back in the 17th century when he studied the effects of a beam of light that shone through a prism. The color wheel, consisting of 12 colors, is the prismatic range of rainbow colors put forward as a circle. The three primary colors - red, yellow and blue - are distributed equally around the wheel. The secondary colors - orange, green and violet - created by mixing two primaries in equal amounts are set between them. Tertiary colors - colors such as yellow-green, blueviolet and red-orange - are an equal blend of a primary and a secondary color and make up the remaining half a dozen colors. All the other colors outside the wheel are variations of the 12 colors mixed with white or black or each other. white is added to color, it creates lighter values called shades. Adding black or gray to a color forms darker tones called shades. Celery is a very pale hue of green, while avocado is one of shades. The term tone refers to the value, or intensity, of a color. Artistry Some of the most successful decorating themes occur when colors of equal intensity or strength are combined; For example, pastels such as pink and peach that have a similar lightness or vivid shades of red, yellow and blue that share the same depth. If it's zing you want, combine two complementary colors; they are complementary because they are located opposite each other on the wheel. Red and green, for example, popular partners are often found in high-style country rooms. For increased drama in a strong modern setting of glass and chrome, a lesser known union would be a purple sofa strewn with plump yellow pillows. A color will clash with the colors on the right or left of its complement on the wheel, such as apricot with purple-blue. Yet not all clashes are bad news. Modernists often pair colors such as bright yellow and royal blue successfully. Cool colors - such as green, blue and violet - will make the living room seem bigger because they seem to push the walls away. Warm colors - oranges, reds, yellows - do the opposite. Paint your bedroom a charming Tuscan apricot, and the space will feel wonderfully cocooned. A dark color will add mystery and romance (on a practical note, dark rooms also remain cleaner looking longer). A color scheme that includes three consecutive colors or some of their adjacent shades and shades will zap the room with life. Gardeners often follow an analog scheme in their flower boundaries with waves of burning red melting to the operation of orange and yellow or, conversely, red blooms that flow into crimsons and violets. Soothing monochromatic themes use a color such as blue or gray in a variety of tones or gradients. Smokey walls, silver velvet curtains and a dark gray sisal blanket on the floor of a New York apartment give the owner the feeling of living on a cloud. Do you want to know all your choices for, say, a green scheme? Paint manufacturers have made it foolproof with chips and diagrams that accompany each color logical progression. To ease our confusion, there are practical aids such as large L-shaped chips to judge trim colors and flip charts of suggested color combinations. Some stores even rent pints of paint for a minimum fee to facilitate the process together. Think of the background color as a dish in which you present all the other elements: furniture, accessories, art. An accent color should be garnish (the green parsley or the bright red cherry) you place on top. If you designate a color such as cobalt blue or plum as accent color and stick to a neutral palette, it will be much easier to change change the appearance of a room according to the season with throws, blankets, pillows, pillows and slipcovers. A pearl-colored living room? Come winter, change lime-green sofa cushions for chocolate brown. A bright-white tiled bathroom? Hang up navy towels as a nautical nod to summer instead of red (for winter holidays). Colors, like fashions, tend to follow the fashions. A neutral palette, however, will never look like yesterday's news (think of the 1950s pink), an important consideration if you are going to one day place your house on the market. Children love color and the more colors the merrier. Children's artwork is proof. And today there are a variety of freewheeling colors based on crayons along with awesome special effect finishes like glow-in-the-dark paint and glitter. Forego ubiquitous pale blue and pink for something newer like juicy peach or pale lavender, the color of morning mist. Nevertheless, if you want to keep the same recipe for several years, neutrals such as creamy ivory or pastels will adapt best for them as time passes and they ripen. Let playful furniture in primary colors be the high jinks for a small child. In an older child's place, a color applied to all the furniture (white, cornflower blue or buttercup-yellow) will give the room a tidier, more uniform feel. Instead of installing walls, you can use different colors to designate different areas: Paint the study zone light green; put relaxing moss wallpaper behind bunk beds. Children appreciate being included in making decisions about their rooms. Instead of confronting them with a zillion choice, though, limit it down to three or four colors you think is appropriate, and then let them choose. Unbeatable white or off-white is a timeless background that any style can be superimposed over. In the 1920s, Syrie Maugham created an all-white salon in her London home that became a landmark in the world of interior design. White can be elegant as in an ultra-modern attic or home-cooked as in an all-white beach hut. White unites a small space. Paint the floor white as well as walls and windows, and a small room will feel more open. Add snow-covered window treatments - a roll-up shade of white denim, white shutters or heavenly white scissors - and extend the setting even further. Contrary to what you might think, white is not boring. Sun-bleached shells stuffed in a bowl offer a variety of variations. Follow their signal, and combine several different tones of white: paint the ceiling a bright, wake-up white; color the walls a more forgiving creamy-white; and dress the chairs and sofa in slipcovers of natural cotton. When you need a punch of color, add a bouquet of flowers. The final decision Tote home a handful of paint chips or strips in the same color spectrum, and tackle them on the wall. Be aware of how they are affected by continuous change of natural and Light. White daylight consists of all the colors of the spectrum. The color of your walls will depend on how much white light is reflected and how much is absorbed. Turn on a light bulb that doesn't have the same balance as the spectrum, and you may notice a more blue or yellow tint. Once you've finally chosen your colors or whittled it down to one or two, paint them on a wall and live with them for a couple of days. It will help if you paint a large area instead of just using a pitiful dab. If the color seems too dominant, switch to a lighter value on the paint strip. If you're still unsure, trust your instincts. Color is above all very personal. Family and friends won't judge your rooms in technical terms anyway. All they want to know is that you are satisfied and that your bedroom looks beautiful. In the end, that's what counts. Color isn't the only thing that makes a room pop, however. Texture and pattern give contrast and spice up an otherwise uniform space. On the next page, you'll learn how to incorporate texture and pattern into your home. To learn more about interior design and get tips and information on how to decorate your home, go to: Interior. Get tips on how to decorate your home and read about organizing a project and choose an interior design that suits your lifestyle. Decorating a room: Find out how to decorate a room from floor to ceiling. Decorating styles: Are you traditional or eclectic? Learn about decorating styles for your home. How to design a kitchen: Create a kitchen that works for you and get tips on how to choose and place appliances and create a decorating scheme. Children's room: Get tips on decorating your children's room, with information about colors, smart strategies and tips on money. Tips.

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