

CHAPTER FIVE

READY, SET, DECORATE!

Now that it's time to get creative, consider these suggestions from our area's top design professionals. Your home is a reflection of you, so make the most of it—and allow your personality to shine through



FEATURING:

Alexis Parent Interiors
Century Billiards & Game Room
Debra Funt Interiors
Douglas Graneto Design
Dumais
Elissa Grayer Interior Design
Jolie Korek & Company
Linherr Hollingsworth
Sea Green Designs





DECORATING 101: WHERE TO SPLURGE AND WHERE TO SAVE

“For clients with families who like to congregate in the kitchen, then that’s where all the bells and whistles should go. But if they prefer to entertain in their living room or dining room, then these areas should be the wow spaces. A library is one of my favorite rooms to make beautiful without going too crazy with the budget.” —Nicole Fuller

OUR PANEL OF EXPERTS

Nicole Fuller
Interior designer,
Nicole Fuller Interiors

Josh Greene
Interior designer,
Josh Greene Design

Elizabeth Pash
Interior designer,
Elizabeth Pash Interiors & Antiques

“Always splurge on the kitchen. The heart and soul of every home, it’s the first room you enter in the morning, and one of the last rooms you spend time in at the end of the night. Count your pennies in guest rooms, which can still be pretty without being top of the line.” —Elizabeth Pash

“Put your resources toward the public areas where you spend most of your time—the living room, dining room, and master bedroom. In children’s rooms, you can have a lot of fun without spending nearly as much.” —Josh Greene

WILLIAM GEDDES (JULY 15, 2015)

MIRROR, MIRROR



“A large mirror is always nice, but keep in mind that a collection of mirrors can sometimes be more impactful.” —Elizabeth Pash



“A powder room is a great space to do some experimenting with mirrors, particularly antique ones, which can lend both playfulness and pedigree.” —Josh Greene



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: JJ JETEL, ERIC PIASECKI, WILLIAM WALDRON

“Mirrors create the illusion of depth and height and reflect light into a room, which ultimately makes the space seem more expansive and open.” —Nicole Fuller

BASEMENT BASICS

“Basements can be wonderful extra real estate for people with kids, since you can put playrooms in them and save yourself square footage on the main floor. On the downside, people in the Hamptons generally don’t want to hang out in a subterranean space all summer.” —Josh Greene

“It’s worth making use of the extra space, particularly if you have a big family, but keep in mind that basements with no windows are depressing, and will always seem that way.” —Elizabeth Pash

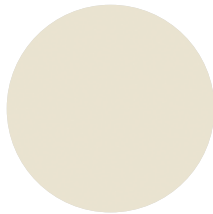
“Basements have become an important component of a home’s overall square footage and are now often used as fun crash pads with upholstered sofas, bars, and pool tables. The con: Basements in older houses often have low ceilings and minimal light, so installing the right fixtures is crucial.” —Nicole Fuller



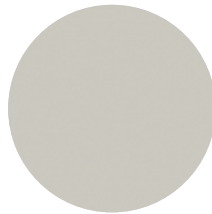
PAINT: THE BEST NEUTRALS AND WHITES



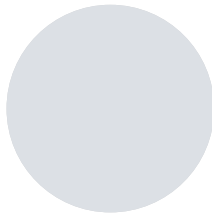
Benjamin Moore Bruton White
“It appears taupe or gray, depending on the light.”
—Elizabeth Pash



Farrow & Ball Skimming Stone
“A perfect balance between gray and taupe. It absorbs light and changes in a space depending on the time of day.”
—Nicole Fuller



Benjamin Moore Nimbus
“This warm gray goes with anything.”
—Josh Greene



Fired Earth Platinum Pale
“A beautiful neutral with cool undertones.”
—Nicole Fuller



Farrow & Ball Slipper Satin
“This warm, creamy white looks great on kitchen cabinetry and ceilings and plays nicely with other colors.”
—Josh Greene

TOP: MICK HALES (JULY 15, 2019)

HOW TO DECK OUT YOUR HOME BAR

“Make the bar feel like a destination for your guests. It should be positioned in a place where they can convene with friends while comfortably reaching for a tray of olives, lemon and lime slices, and drink stirrers.” —Nicole Fuller

“Besides the basics, add little accessories that will make guests feel welcome and enjoy the experience that much more: beautiful cocktail napkins, a small lamp, and seasonal flowers.” —Josh Greene



“Try mirroring the back of a built-in bar, which will make it appear larger and reflect the assortment of bottles contained on it. Another trick, if it’s in a dark corner: Install LED strips for additional light.” —Elizabeth Pash

WOULD YOU BELIEVE MY CLIENTS ONCE ASKED ME TO . . .

“ . . . give them a tented dining room with a capital D.”
—Josh Greene



“ . . . come up with a wall finish that mimics the color and texture of candlewax.” —Nicole Fuller



LEFT: FRANCESCO LAGNESE (OCTOBER 2020); RIGHT: PETER MURDOCK (JUNE 2014)



ART SMARTS

“Clients should educate themselves and figure out what pleases them by going to galleries, shows, and auction houses. It’s okay to have a blank wall for a while.” —Elizabeth Pash

“I encourage clients to find artwork that they’re comfortable with and connect to. The process shouldn’t be rushed. Art galleries are there for people to visit, tour, and ask questions.” —Nicole Fuller

“I ask gallery directors to speak directly with clients about artwork—it puts them at ease and makes them more comfortable about purchasing a piece.” —Josh Greene

THE BEST TYPE OF ARTWORK FOR THE ...

Kitchen
“A traditional painting is nice, particularly in an all-white modern kitchen.” —Elizabeth Pash

Entry
“A statement-making sculpture or light installation.” —Nicole Fuller



Long hallway
“Collages of artwork or family photographs in matching frames.” —Josh Greene

Bedroom
“Anything calm and peaceful, like a canvas with a soft palette or a line drawing.” —Nicole Fuller

Living room
“Large black-and-white photographs always look great.” —Elizabeth Pash

TOP: TRIA GIOVAN (SEPTEMBER 2020); BOTTOM: PETER MURDOCK (JULY 2020)



QUESTIONS TO ASK

“Will a piece of art appreciate in value? But even if it might not, buy it because you love it.” —Josh Greene

“Can I see it in person? Because if you’re shopping online, colors can be distorted on a computer screen. Try to check out the real deal if you can.” —Elizabeth Pash

“How did the artist get his or her start, and who inspired them?” —Nicole Fuller

PETER MURDOCK (SEPTEMBER 2020)

TOP FIVE WHAT CLIENTS WANT NOW

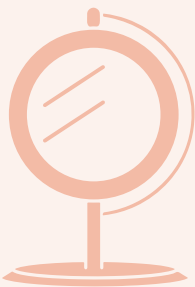
1 “Quick updates, without necessarily having to re-do a whole room—anything from changing a paint color to reupholstering some furniture for a little ‘face-lift.’” —Elizabeth Pash



2 “Wellness-inspired home gyms that have specific spaces dedicated to massage and meditation.” —Nicole Fuller

3

“Great desks, particularly since people are working from home more.” —Elizabeth Pash



4 “Custom home ‘blow bars,’ which we call beauty rooms on the East Coast and glam rooms on the West Coast. Their popularity is a direct result of the pandemic.” —Nicole Fuller

5

“Good bedding. It’s impossible to find right now because it all sells out so quickly, yet everyone wants to update theirs. It’s hard to find what you want.” —Josh Greene

