



JAMIE SIERZENGA, SERENITY INTERIORS

A mix of pillows, rugs and accessories that were both high-end and affordable helped create a space with a layered look.

decor detail

Today's trends include man caves, mixing high-end with cost-saving items and combining textures and colors.

By Kevin Fritz

Need a new look? Maybe it's time to turn spring cleaning into spring re-decorating. Explore today's trends and options, and jump right in. From mixing and matching to bringing the outdoors in, there is a new look for you — and it doesn't have to cost a fortune. Ayers Davis Interiors, owned and operated by **Lauren Ayers** and her sister, **Lise Davis**, has instituted a trend they call "high-low," which allows them to mix local shopping with custom orders and pieces. It's a trend used to completely fill a room from different sources without breaking the budget. For instance, they may mix expensive wallpaper with inexpensive, quality furniture to pull a room together.

The sisters took their ideas to **Anna Fetter**, who lives in **Winter Park** with her husband and three children, in a home they just bought in February.

"They asked me what colors I like, and that was it. The home was virtually empty. They started accumulating things and had a big install. It was exactly what we were looking for," she says.

"We pride ourselves on reading people," says Lauren, whose mom, Karen Campbell, was in the business locally for 35 years. "She wanted eclectic, colorful, and fun. Not matchy-matchy."

In the living area, custom shutters give the home an updated look. A sofa, chest and custom pillows were added before complementing the room with lower-priced layered area rugs, lighting, a chair, accessories, garden stools, and artwork. The furniture was purchased locally, but they chose pieces that don't look like they come from a popular retailer — when they actually do.

Lise and Lauren also created a nook off the family room to provide

a place for the kids to read. On the "high" end, they used Schumacher wallpaper and Moroccan poufs. For the cost-saving part of the equation, they added throw pillows, lighting and a Pottery Barn daybed.

A Seminole Man Cave

Nancy and **Rick Balderson** asked family friend and designer **Jamie Sierzenga** of Serenity Interiors, LLC, to come to their **Seminole County** home they had lived in for 25 years to help add a front deck/porch to their 1984 home. What Sierzenga saw was a plain interior with little style and convinced the homeowners to do a complete makeover.

Sierzenga introduced a sophisticated man-cave, which she says is a trend that continues to grow as more male clients get involved in the design of their living spaces. To complement Rick's love of aviation, Sierzenga added

aviator chairs covered in vintage leather with steel riveted sides and a ceiling fan that resembles a plane propeller.

Do-it-yourself projects, another trend that is quite popular today thanks to crafty websites such as Pinterest and Esty.com, were also introduced to the project. Many clients are creating eclectic looks by merging their creativity and passion for art.

"Nancy presented the idea of overlaying antique picture frames," says Sierzenga, "which I thought was a perfect way to fill-up a very large wall with high ceilings in the family room."

Jamie Sierzenga gives Rick Balderson of Seminole a man cave with an aviation theme.



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The kitchen was renovated by removing walls to open it up, adding a contemporary look with new color, cabinets, counters, appliances and lighting throughout. Sierzenga also integrated new furnishings with their existing antique furniture in the living room, family room, dining room and master bedroom.

The front deck? Looks like that will have to wait for now.

Mix It Up

For newlyweds **Perm** and **Karishma Kalidas** in **Dr. Phillips**, Sierzenga is currently renovating the interior of a Mediterranean-style townhouse. New tile, carpet and paint colors throughout have brought it alive. Now, Mediterranean meets modern with a European influence.

"The most common request I receive from my clients is to renovate their out-dated kitchens," she says. "In this case, they first wanted to reflect their personal style of ultra-contemporary furnishings."

The homeowners were not too sure about introducing three different cabinet looks to the kitchen, noting they were not sure about "Jamie's creation," but they were so pleased in the end. Sierzenga chose the cabinets to set the theme throughout the house for the new minimalist decor they desired.

Sierzenga's idea was to implement the trend of contrasting colors and tex-

tures just as you would with fabric and finishes.

The tall wall cabinets are a white glossy lacquered finish, which is quite popular in modern furniture these days; the upper cabinets are stainless steel frames with etched glass inserts; and all of the lower cabinets are now gray textured wood veneer, another popular trend. Once construction is complete, a white high-gloss solid surface counter top with a waterfall edge and stainless steel mosaic backsplash tiles will finish the look.

An Outdoor Oasis

"I am seeing a bit more of a laid-back look and feel as a trend these days," says **Delight Gelinis** of Interior's Delight, located in **Lake Nona**. "Bringing the outdoors in. That's what Florida is all about — and having that flow throughout the entire space."

That's exactly what she did for homeowner **Jimmy Vee** in Stoneybrook East. Gelinis, with the help of Creative Water Features, redesigned and redecorated the pool area located off the living room. By adding new stone, patio furniture, and artwork and then installing countertops, a refrigerator and built-in barbeque, the family now has a seamless indoor-outdoor look and feel to their home.

There is also new, sophisticated lighting by the pool and misters that drop the temperature 20 degrees without getting you wet.

"Delight helped us turn our ordinary pool deck into an outdoor oasis," says Vee. "It went from ordinary to extraordinary with Delight's direction, and now it's a place we love to spend time."

Gelinis, who has been in the business for 38 years, seven of those in Orlando, is now tackling the kitchen and finishing up the design in the living and family rooms. She notes that black and gray remain trendy colors and many clients are still opting for neutrals, such as beige. **L**

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