



INTERIOR DESIGN



WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Do you walk into a room and know exactly what colors and what furniture would look good in the space? Do you know what paint color or wallpaper would brighten the room? How do you create a feeling of coziness in a family room? Being an interior designer is all about making a house a home. But what about just starting in your room? Can you select colors, textures and accessories that will show off your personal style and enable you to take care of your room? If you know the basics, you can advance to wood finishing, principles of design, furnishing purchase decisions or using software to create your ideal house.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN LEARN...

STARTING OUT

- ✿ Learn more about design elements including color, texture, shape, form, line and space
- ✿ Learn design principles such as rhythm, balance, emphasis, unity and proportion
- ✿ Create your own design accessories
- ✿ Work with different design tools and materials
- ✿ Make plans that include comfort and safety
- ✿ Develop organizational skills

LEARNING MORE

- ✿ Apply design elements and principles to room designs
- ✿ Plan and design your own room or space
- ✿ Use paint and fabric to create new looks
- ✿ Learn how to select wall coverings, flooring and window coverings
- ✿ Identify furniture styles and learn about furniture selection

GOING FURTHER

- ✿ Draft a floor plan
- ✿ Reduce clutter and create convenient storage
- ✿ Learn proper care of items and how to extend their use
- ✿ Plan and select lighting for a room
- ✿ Learn to create personal space in shared rooms
- ✿ Understand how home choice impacts the environment
- ✿ Make energy efficient choices

RESOURCES

- ✿ Design My Place (CD) (marketplace.unl.edu)
- ✿ Design Decisions (marketplace.unl.edu)

TAKE IT FURTHER!

- ✿ Tour a furniture store
- ✿ Visit a local paint shop, take a class if they are offered
- ✿ Complete a project scavenger hunt to find principles of design around your home or community
- ✿ Job shadow someone who works in energy, lighting or recycling
- ✿ Volunteer to redesign and rearrange a room at your school to make the area more functional
- ✿ Work with local partners to establish a community day for the free disposal of paint and refinishing materials and solvents

ENHANCE YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Teach a session on a painting technique

Give a demonstration on how to make a pillow or other accessory

Give a talk at a local library about how to declutter and organize

GET INVOLVED IN CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE

Refurbish furniture for someone in need

Volunteer to help paint or fix up someone's home

Host a design class for family for friends

Work with a nonprofit to create a functional meeting space floor plan

LEARN ABOUT LEADERSHIP

Plan a community painting day

Teach home maintenance skills to others

Create a video on how to make your home more energy efficient

Design, create and market soft furnishings and accessories to sell at local craft shows

EXHIBIT IDEAS

- ✿ Refurbish furniture
- ✿ Create a room accessory
- ✿ Show a room painting technique on a smaller scale
- ✿ Design a floor plan
- ✿ Make a 3-D room model
- ✿ Create a window covering
- ✿ Design a lighting plan for a house or room
- ✿ Poster on the elements of design
- ✿ Display about design principles
- ✿ Poster of tools used in interior design
- ✿ Create a plan to make your home energy efficient
- ✿ Develop a design board showing how to transform a space
- ✿ Use a model kit to build a solar home showing how the sun's energy can be used to heat a home
- ✿ Showcase a home improvement item you created



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