

KRISTINA'S DESIGN CALL

We've chatted. We've planned. Now it's time to get to work.

Inside this packet you'll find all the things we talked about and more.

Living Room

For your living room, I think you're just lacking some contrast and warmth. By adding some additional colors and swapping a few pieces, you'll end up with a space that still works for your family, but feels a bit elevated. Below you'll find some suggestions, but please keep in mind since this isn't a Digital Design Plan, it is up to you to confirm that items will appropriately fit the space prior to making purchases.

- Instead of using your existing ottoman, try a leather or faux leather option to bring the warmth of the
 mantle color down into the space. Opting for a storage ottoman like the example shown, can also
 help capture some of the kid clutter in the room.
- For a more adult looking space while still accommodating children, try using a curio cabinet like the one shown to store toys and decor. I'd suggest positioning this on the stairwell wall and moving the play kitchen into your actual kitchen once expanded. The black finish will add more contrast to the room and will connect to the black finishes used in your kitchen for a cohesive look.
- For a more custom design, I would suggest swapping your loveseat for two arm chairs in a more saturated color. Not only will this add interest to the room, but it will also provide more flexibility as you can easily move chairs around the space depending on the need. I like this velvet option since velvet typically holds up well to kids and pets. The olive color feels like a neutral and will work well with blues making it a simple color to coordinate with.
- I noticed your living room is really lacking lighting as well as tables (to place books or drinks) so I would add at least one accent table to the room on either side of the sofa as well as a floor lamp in the corner of the room.
- For extra, flexible seating, you can add in small stools/ottomans tucked next to the cabinet.

Swap the existing accent pillows for new versions that pull in your accent colors. Woven Nook is a
great affordable option for pillow covers.

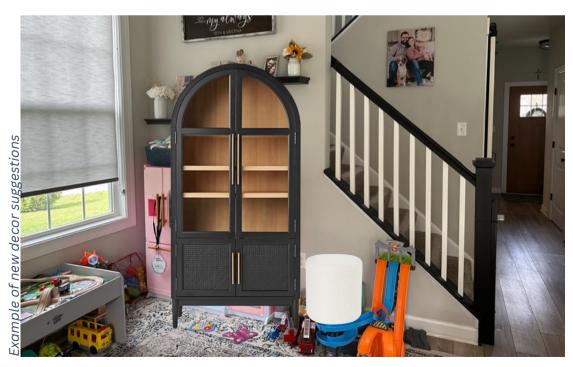


Living Room









Powder Room

- The powder room is a great place to be bold and fun! Below I'm giving a wallpaper option as well as a
 paint color + artwork option to help you add some interest. I would wait until you add the color in this
 room before worrying about your hardware as it might not be as much of a focus once you have
 additional elements to focus on.
- To tidy up the toilet area, I recommend adding a floating shelf (the same width as your cabinet) between the cabinet and toilet tank to hold items like tissues and such. You can also add in a small piece of artwork to help this space feel finished and thoughtful.
- I would leave your light fixture, but update the mirror to something with a thinner frame to help it feel a little more modern. An arched version could be lovely.





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Kitchen

As discussed, I think your expansion is a great way to make your main living spaces more functional. Adding a cabinet before the expanded pantry is an ideal way to add storage without needing to replace your countertops. Keep the style the same as your exiting cabinets to keep the look cohesive. Remember that you'll want a minimum of 42" between the perimeter cabinets and the island for functionality. For additional updates I would consider:

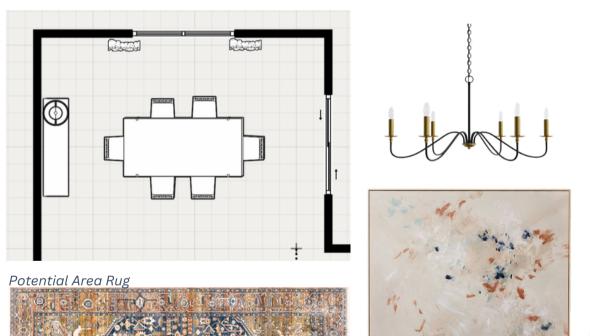
- A sage green island color for added interest. Be sure to test the color prior to committing.
- Swap your counter stools for something different for a few reasons: 1) to add more contrast to the cabinetry; 2) add warmth to this room with either a caramel leather or a lighter/warmer wood tone; and 3) to create a more custom feel to your home by not matching your kitchen chairs exactly.
- If wanting to add more interest, you could also update your kitchen backsplash to a complimentary green tile.
- When expanding the island, you'll likely want to have two pendant lights rather than one. Example below.



Dining Room

With the expanded dining space, I recommend adding curtain panels and artwork with a bit of color to create an elevated feeling while still functioning as your main dining space. Additional update suggestions are below.

- Replace your existing light fixture with something a bit larger. I'd suggest using a chandelier that uses a bit of gold/brass as well as black for more interest.
- I'd suggest using a table lamp on the buffet for some additional ambient lighting.
- You can add family photos (or artwork) on either side of the new window.
- Your extra dining chairs would sit on either side of the window as well if you'd like to keep them in the dining room rather than elsewhere in the home.
- If you'd like to add a rug to the dining room, a 9x12 should be suitable.







Potential Color Palete



HOME INTERIOR WARDROS



ABOUT BLOG CONTAC

Thrifting + Antique Shopping: What to Grab (+ What to Skip)

DECOR STYLING, INTERIOR DESIGN, SECONDHAND



SHOP SECOND-HAND

Buying everything new isn't required to create a space you love. If you'd like to implement this design with a "slow decorating" approach, you can use the recommended selections as a guide to find quality, vintage or used pieces in similar styles. Use the tips on the following page to help you shop.

Shopping Secondhand

Shopping vintage or secondhand is a great way to pull your design together at a lower price point and in a more sustainable way. I totally encourage it! You can shop Antique Malls, Garage Sales, Estate Sales, Flea Markets, Facebook Marketplace, Thrift Stores and more. Just be sure to be armed with your tape measure and a specific list of what you need.

Good news is - you already have the list right here in this packet! Save it to your phone to help keep you on track as you hunt. Small decorative items are especially perfect to pick up secondhand. Be patient as you shop and avoid rush purchases (unless it's just perfect.) And remember, if you love it, go for it!

What to Pay Attention to...



Scale: Stick as close to the original size when choosing a new, used option.



Condition: If it's damaged beyond repair, chipped, stained, etc., it's not the one.



Price: If it's worn and not saving you money, maybe it's best to go with the new purchase.



Color: You can adjust the original color of a piece, but it needs to flow with the rest of the design. Be thoughtful before saying yes.



Style: If adding a new style in the mix, think about how you can balance by adding another element in a similar style to the space.

Extra Resources

Window Curtains

Are you making this simple styling mistake? Here's how to fit it.

WATCH THE REEL

Thrifting Tips

Before you head out to the local thrift store, here's a few tips.

READ THE BLOG POST

Shelf Styling 101

Shelves and table tops always need a little styling support. Here's a great starting point for styling for yourself.

READ THE BLOG POST

What to Buy First

Shopping mindfully?
Here's what I'd purchase first when completing a design plan.

READ THE BLOG POST



WHAT'S NEXT?

I'll give you a week to digest all this information and then I'll pop back in to your inbox to see if there are any extra questions you have or support you need to bring your design to life. Can't wait to see how it all comes together for you!

talk soon, Robin