

Decorating success hinges on color, pattern

Color and pattern, like cakes and ale, beer and skittles, must go hand in glove for true success in decoration.

Therefore an understanding of each is important before you tackle a project. In a sense, color is the cornerstone of good decorating. The first rule is to reassess your beliefs about it.

Many women are afraid of color in the home. Others have mental blocks about certain colors. Still others have an instinctive preference for colors that are becoming to them, but don't carry over this same color palette to their rooms.

Knowing what color can do helps dispel fear. It can give you a dramatic, vibrant, bold background or a serene one.

COLOR CAN MAKE A HOUSE OR APARTMENT bright and airy or rich and heavy, casual or formal, traditional or contemporary in feeling. Remember that earth colors—browns and beiges—have a soothing effect on people, while red and orange are apt to arouse and stimulate.

Yellow strikes a gay note. Green is relaxing for many high-strung people. Purple, shocking pink, burnt orange and some of the vivid hues are best used as accents, if at all, in most rooms.

White and black, the non-colors, have amazing properties—you have an uncanny ability to give an open, pervasive look, while black, when properly used, is the most dramatic of all accents.

The second step in the color process is a color scheme. Here we are talking about a family of three or four basic

hues, with one or two invited guests as accents. It is quite possible to use many colors in a scheme or monochromatics, but these solutions are not easy to bring off and are best left to the professional designer.

For the basic family of colors, those which are thought of as compatible, make the best selection. For example: blue, green and white; orange, beige and red; or green, yellow and gray.

Swimming lessons scheduled

If you want to improve your swimming strokes, learn about lifesaving or just swim for recreation, there still is time to register for the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Division swim sessions.

The next swimming lesson sessions begin on July 10, with registration July 7, from 9 a.m. to noon at either North Farmington High School, or Farmington High School.

If you're unable to make the July 10 session, another is scheduled beginning July 24 and lasts through Aug. 4. Registration for that session is July 21, 9 a.m. to noon.

You may register for only one session at a time. Register at the school which you wish to attend. It's a first come-first served registration.

Lessons are divided into ten levels, from beginners to learning to swim 400 yards in basic strokes, learning the butterfly and racing skills. Suits and towels must be furnished by participants. Swimmers with long

hair must wear a bathing cap. Children whose chin height is less than 38 inches must be accompanied by a parent in the pool.

Lifesaving classes will be on Thursday evenings at Farmington High School and run from 7-10 p.m. It begins June 29 and runs for six weeks. Cost is \$12.

Open swimming is from June 26 to Aug. 4. Children and teens pay \$5

cents. Adults 18-years and older pay 75 cents. Open swimming is Monday through Friday, from 12:15 p.m. and from 2:20-3:45. Evening swimming for the entire family is from 7-9:30 p.m. at both high schools.

Interested persons can buy ten open swim tickets for the price of eight at the recreation office either in person or by mail. Recreation offices are located at 31555 Eleven Mile, Farmington Hills 48018.

more bizarre ones, are difficult and tiresome to live with. As you choose your colors be mindful of the light in the room or rooms under consideration. There is no color without light, artificial or natural, and it is important to know how rooms face and what kind of night lighting they will have.

Be sure you choose light bulbs and fluorescent lights that will not change the colors of your fabrics and other decorative components at night—unless you want them to. Pink bulbs, for example, can be flattering to people but can play havoc with subtle color relationships in upholstery.

THE ROLE OF PATTERN all too

often, if thought of at all, is regarded as something that just happens if other elements of the design process are properly handled. Yet, pattern is a distinct element which demands its own attention. In fact there are few facets in interior design which can exert as powerful an effect, for good or evil, on a room.

Pattern is a form of the perennial question—what goes with what—and soon reveals itself as a highly controversial subject. In fact, few persons are in complete accord as to how, when and where to use it.

If you will stay with me until next week, I will continue the subject of color and pattern. There's much more to be said.

Owens is named manager of new real estate office

Farmington resident Ray Owens was named the manager of the new Hitchcock Gallery of Homes real estate office in Farmington. The office is located at 33205 Grand River in the Metropolitan Bank Bldg, formerly occupied by Chapman Realty World. The Farmington office is the fifth suburban office opened by the company.

Owens was named 1978 Metro Detroit Associate Realtor and sold \$3.6 million in residential real estate in 1977. He, his wife Claudia and two children have lived in Farmington for five years.

Shirley Doliber, former principal and manager of Chapman Realty, will remain with Hitchcock as an associate broker.

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PHOTOGRAPHY HOURS:
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