

Accessories provide spark for room decor

If your rooms are attractive but impersonal, perhaps they need the individual spark accessories can provide.

Nothing shapes the character of a room more quickly than accessories. They instantly and intimately reveal your taste for traditional, contemporary or an eclectic mix.

Accessories also pinpoint your special interests, tell of your travels, your absorption with the past or fascination with the future.

What are accessories? Some are functional as well as decorative. These include clocks, ash trays, mirrors, bookends, lamps, shelves and pillows.

Others are purely pleasure-giving: statuary, pottery, figurines, plants and flowers.

Although accessories are usually the last touch added to a room, you should never minimize their importance. Without these decorative accents a room looks unfinished, is cold and uninviting.

Spend as much or as little money as you like for accessories, but make sure each item is well-suited to its surroundings. And don't be afraid to mix different types of accessories. That's where the fun comes in—using your imagination to create new and original groupings.

When accessorizing, it's best to keep in mind the dominant style of a room. This isn't to say you must painstakingly select every accessory in the same period. But by studying furniture styles, you can determine which things will work together and which will obviously clash.

Oriental accessories, for example, blend smoothly with contemporary furnishings, since both share the same simplicity of design.

WANT TO INTRODUCE COLOR into a room? Do it with accessories. Splash color on pillows, vases, table covers. Flowers are an easy and inexpensive way of testing color in a room. If you don't like the overall effect, simply replace one bouquet with another.

Accessories can also play a major role in establishing a color scheme. Let a striking piece of framed fabric or an area rug color-key an entire room. You can also accomplish the same effect with a painting. Just don't make the mistake of selecting a canvas solely because it goes with a gold or a green room. Be sure you like the painting for itself and feel comfortable with it.

You can accessorize almost every surface in a room, providing you discipline your choices. Try placing a small rug on wall-to-wall carpet for

comfort plus pattern interest. Hang a cluster of opal glass pendants from the ceiling. Select pillows in various sizes, shapes and textures for your upholstered furniture. And since most rooms have more wall space than any other surface, be purposely dramatic in your placement of paintings, plaques and scones, mirrors, shelves and brackets.

COLLECTIONS ARE A GREAT WAY to accessorize a room, giving it the positive stamp of your own personality. But beware of clutter. Organize your collection and concentrate it in one area, whether you fancy glass or pewterware or Meissen china. And give your collectibles a suitable setting—an easel, or lighted curio cabinet, simple wall shelves or even a tabletop, so you and your guests can easily examine and enjoy your favorite things.

How much is enough where accessories are concerned? That can only be a personal decision. If you're frankly sentimental and want to surround yourself with lots of mementos nostalgically acquired over the years, then arrange them by color and type.

Visit department stores and furniture stores and accessory shops to see how they display accessories. This will help you develop an eye for composition and balance.

Room for Design

by
Gloria
Cohen

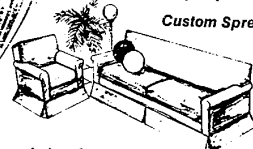


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Providence graduates technology students

Graduation ceremonies were held in late June for students who completed their educational programs in the schools of medical and radiologic technology at Providence Hospital in Southfield.

Certificates and school pins were awarded to four students who completed the 12-month medical technology internships.

The graduates and the universities where they earned their baccalaureate degrees are: Mary Andrea of Stambaugh, Mich., Michigan Technological University; Denise Kobos of Warren, Oakland University; Carol Kutsak of Detroit, Michigan State University; and Sandra Tylicki of Birmingham, Michigan.

ham, Michigan Technological University. These students graduated in medical technology.

Graduating in radiologic technology were nine graduates of the school of radiologic technology's two-year program: Judy Toth of Taylor, Laurie Virksis of Dearborn, Patrick Gavin of Dearborn Heights and Kimberly Squires of Birmingham, who accepted the special award given annually for outstanding performance.

Others are: Thomas Lewandowski of Dearborn Heights, Donna Nowacki of Detroit, Diane Sposato of Oak Park, Patricia Baker of Wyandotte and Michelle Scheuern of Washington, Mich., who earned the school's honor for academic achievement.

Freeze foods for family

Freezing is one of the simplest and least time consuming ways to preserve food at home. You preserve the natural color, flavor and nutritive values of most fruits and vegetables.

Some vegetables, such as green onions, lettuce and other salad greens, radishes and whole tomatoes should not be frozen.

To determine whether a fruit or vegetable will freeze well, freeze only

a couple of packages and sample the food after freezing. This will show you how the food stands up to freezing. Food to be frozen should be packed cold into containers. This speeds freezing and helps retain the desired colors, flavor and textures.

For additional information, please contact the Food Preservation Hotline, Oakland County Cooperative Extension Service at 658-0904.

Midnight showings for the Attic

Midnight theater has returned to the Theatre in Detroit's Greenroom.

Appearing Fridays and Saturdays at midnight only, now through Sept. 2, are "Los Legumbres" (mixed vegetables).

Los Legumbres, otherwise known as Chris Goeke and Dan Spahn divert attentions with a special kind of comedy and satire. Their hour-long show investigates such diverse phenomena as virginity, dating services and the six o'clock news.

Admission for the Attic Midnight Series is \$2.50. For more information, call the Attic Theatre, 963-7789.

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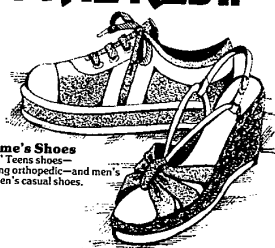
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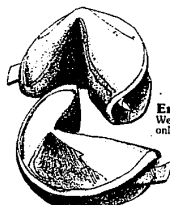


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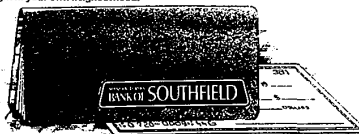
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