

# INTERIOR ACCENTS



with **Kasey Pierson, A.S.I.D.**

SCOTT SHUPTRINE is pleased to welcome you to this weekly interior design column. In the weeks ahead, we'll provide you with creative recommendations on how to beautify your living spaces. We have served this community since 1927, and have earned the trust and respect of many satisfied customers. Our interior designers will review your personal tastes and objectives and advise you on furniture selection, space planning, and accessorization. Call us at 248-616-3585 to arrange a consultation, or visit us in Troy at 977 E. 14 Mile Rd. or in Novi at 43606 W. Oaks Dr. and browse through a wide selection of beautifully crafted furniture. Business hours are, M, T, Th, & F 10-9; Wed. & Sat. 10-6; Sun. 12-5:30; and by appointment.

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## interior motives

# Look for the better way



NAOMI STONE LEVY

Whether pursuing a Colonial interior, or a modern one, or an eclectic scene, there are numerous ways to achieve each. The primary thought should be, "What is the better way?"

Considering a Colonial room I don't envision "Early American." They aren't synonymous.

Early American is of a far less formal nature. Many of the pieces were painted and decorated with designs such as the American eagle.

Colonial, whether furnished in maple or highly polished mahogany, may have fluted posts topped with very decorative finials.

In previous columns I have stated that I have never bought a matched "suite" of furniture of any style. This is

amateurish, and resembles a furniture store. Mixing woods and finishes takes thought, but is worth the trouble you have taken. This is the better way.

Early American interiors look best with tiny repeated cotton print fabrics or plain percales. Trimmed with rows of rick-rack or even braids they take on individuality. Be creative, but don't overdo.

Crisscross white sheer curtains are understated and blend with both styles. Tie-back draperies look special on wooden poles, or decorative brass rods.

I think of fabrics that are dressier to accompany Colonial pieces. This isn't nit-picking. It is a more dignified venue and upholstery requires a lovely floral chintz or more formal damask. Repeat the chintz on several of the chairs. This is a better way.

Bedspreads look great over ruffled bed skirts. These can match, but are more individual when contrasting. A print topping a plain material, or vice versa, is more esthetic. Pillowcases with

a ruffle are a happy addition.

Modern interiors are typically more sparse and tailored than Colonial. Nevertheless, they should be vibrant, and resonate great taste. Windows are frequently covered with vertical or lateral blinds. Draperies are just as tasteful, but perhaps more subtle, and less severe.

My personal favorite interior, of course, is "eclectic." It is a much maligned word, but speaks volumes.

I like to involve the mix of something traditional with something contemporary. This concerns accessories and art work. All of your upholstered furniture must be simple and uncomplicated. Yet if you add a Victorian chair or settee you will achieve that elusive mix that I speak of so lovingly.

Have I shown you the better way?

You can leave Naomi Stone Levy a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1897. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

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