Dressing Your HOME

Show a lifestyle in your entry hall

Depending on your terminology, it can be an entry hall or foyer. Whatever you call it, it is the first introduction your friends have to your home. What have you done with yours? Many become a neglected area, if the clutching hobby or mail of every member of the family. More often than not they are not treated as a room but a pass through to the rest of the house.

Today every bit of space is being used. You're not with it if you have just an entry hall. So even realizing that this is not a trend, it is popular to talk about an the redesign of the kitchen or family room. Entry ways are a wheel.

ASK YOURSELF, what is your lifestyle and what type of home do you project? Is your household all adults or are there small children living there too? Do you entertain often? Do you prefer formal backgrounds to the more casual settings? In addition, consider how can your entry hall as are the rooms.

If it is the formal setting you prefer, then the entry hall in your home can be done in black with ceiling and baseboards. Foil paper can add an interesting effect and reflect the lights from other rooms. It can also be quite dramatic.

LAURETTA REGAN

The hall can be made warm with a piece of furniture that is not a storage space. It could be a table and together with mirrors, a modern vase. The table could be used for a small collection of pewter, a vase of flowers, a mirror, or it could be used for plants.

This type of entry hall is also a perfect area, depending on the personality, for an attractive display of prized possessions.

BUT PERHAPS your lifestyle in your home is more of a formal type. It can be achieved by providing a casual outdoor feel. Do the walls in bright, warm tones, either in paper or paint. A good paper to be used for this is a trellis pattern.

With these walls you could create an indoor garden in a logical area. A trellis pattern, having a collection of green and flowering plants. The use of spotlights or track lighting would be beneficial in the entry, plus brightening the hall.

You could turn the area into a small office using an attractive desk. A lamp that would be proportioned to the area. With a small mirror, a pictures over the desk and a hanging light.

Whichever is your formal or informal decor, a wall probably on the entry hall, entry hall have to make it work. Paint or paper the walls to blend in with the work, thus eliminating a chopped up effect. Your entry hall should project your personality, like a warm handshake.

Dear Ms. Regan,

I am planning to decorate my living room soon and before making some possibly costly mistakes I hope you will give me your opinion of my plan.

I already have some case pieces and carpeting which will stay. The case pieces are 18th century English style in mahogany and the carpeting is off-white shag plush. The rest of my home is in the deep blues, white and a touch of red.

I would like to get away from the stiff, formal look that sometimes goes with this type of furniture. I am planning to purchase a tuxedo-style sofa and love seat and was thinking of covering them with a cotton print fabric with a dark blue background and a white floral print.

I would like to use the same print for tie-back draperies and valances for a large picture window. The draperies would be tied back over cafe length stretchie sheers.

I also have room for one wing chair and would appreciate a suggestion for its covering. The walls will be either painted white or covered with with grass cloth.

What do you think? Is that too much of one print. Will the dark background of the print stand out too much from the white walls and white carpeting. Your comments and suggestions will be appreciated.

R.A.
Farmington Hills

Dear R.A.

I think your idea of achieving a more relaxed atmosphere in your living room with the addition of printed fabrics is right on target. You do not mention whether you have dark blue and red already in the room. I would look for a print in a lighter shade of the dark blue with a lot of white and a bit of red. The window treatment would not be too much print.

For a highlight or relief color, I'd do the chair in red and white check. Grass cloth would be better for the walls as it would add texture giving a warmer feeling than large areas of flat, white paint.

Lauretta Regan

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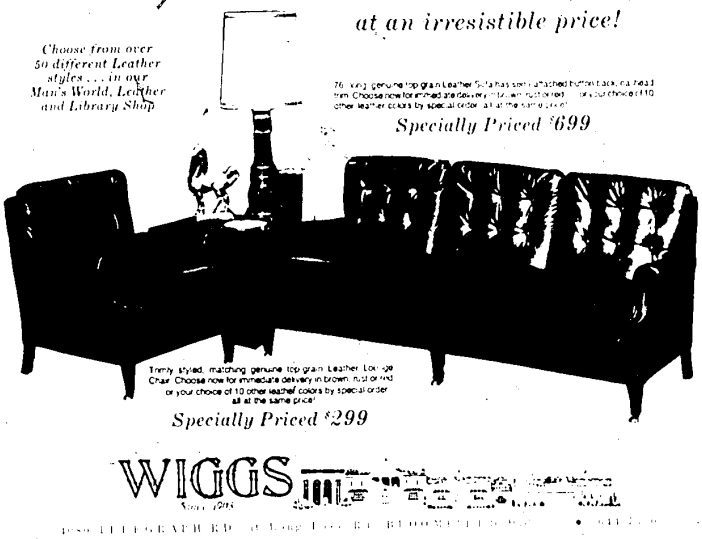

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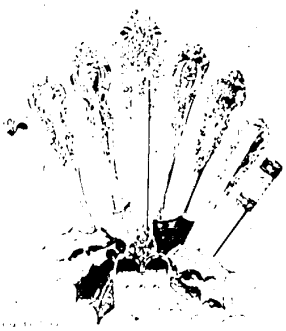

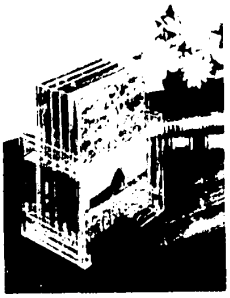

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