

interior motives

# Why don't you try these decor tips

Why don't you hunt for a wrought-iron, six-foot-tall, tripod plate stand? They are wonderful used in various ways.

They are meant for plates, of course. But they are stunning when accommodating many other items. You should be able to buy the stand for less than \$200. Set it in a corner and it becomes truly decorative.

I have ensconced knock-out bowls in graduated sizes, largest at the bottom, filled with shiny holly greens and berries. What a show!

I have stacked varied edible fruits on plates - all shiny red apples on one plate, all pears on a second, all tangerines on a third, all bananas, all grapes, all nuts. Add a small stack of fruit plates and knives for convenience. Wonderful colors. You have created a center that people will gravitate to, and enjoy! A cocktail party conversation piece.

You can display collections of your own choosing. Set them out on 3/4-inch-thick rounds of glass. Your friends will love it. Sculpture, modern or period, would be unparalleled.

Why don't you buy plastic drawer shoe boxes, and stack them? They can be three or four feet high, or graduated as if steps. What you fill them with will make them successful. One colorful thought is the collection you have of match covers and boxes from restaurants and hotels wherever you have traveled.

Another content could be goldfish. Fill each drawer with water, a little sand, tiny marbles of beautiful colors and small fish. One drawer might contain only floating greens. Clearly a lot of fun

seen one stacked above the other.

Why don't you execute an esthetic skirted table? The round table can be very inexpensive, merely the right height and diameter for your needs.

The plain, but nonetheless fine quality of the fabric for the large round underskirt needs to be coordinated with the colors of the patterned square top. This should be the most handsome material you can find. Enhance same with gorgeous elongated tassels at the four corners. These will also function to hold the top in place with clan. What a way to go!

Why don't you reassess your collection of books, and how you would like them to resonate a library? Do you have any sets that are beautifully bound (but hardly ever read)? They do make an impression, even on yourself. Yes, give them top billing, and organize current publications nearby.

If you have good shelf space take advantage of it. If not, create shelves supported by angle brackets, even in narrow spaces. You can buy shelving that is prefinished, or buy thick pine boards cut to your size and painted. The shelves should be 10 inches deep.

Bookends are helpful but not always necessary. Lay several books down at one end of a stack and place an interesting "objet d'art" on top. It will break up the all-book look.

An extra large dictionary will be much used and a welcome addition. There are several stunning brass dictionary stands so that you can leave the book open.

Naomi Stone Levy, a Franklin resident, is an interior designer and a former secretary of the American Society of Interior Designers. You can leave her a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1897. Her fax number is (810) 644-1314.



NAOMI STONE LEVY

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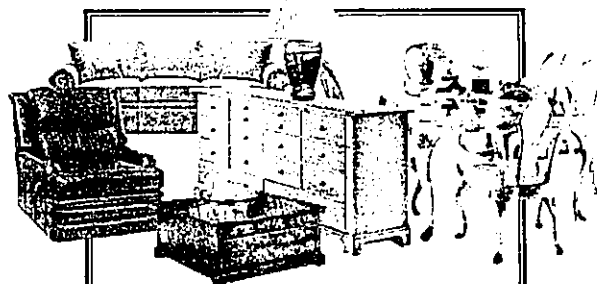
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## Design class helps organize

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Call (313) 462-4448. Scheduled sessions are:

• *Interior Design I*, 12 Tuesdays beginning Feb. 4 - Learn how to organize the elements of your interior to create the environment that expresses you and your lifestyle. Use color confidently and arrange your furniture to maximize the pieces you have. Learn how to make

wise choices, determine quality and work within a budget. Cost is \$78 (seniors, \$40).

• *Faux Finishes*, two Tuesdays beginning Feb. 4 - With hands-on instruction, learn the techniques of stone, ragging, sponging, striping and marbling. Make inexpensive and creative finishes using simple tools and latex-based products. All supplies are included. Cost is \$85 (seniors, \$72).