

Australia's top designers and stylists share





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We believe everyone can create a space that makes their heart happy and they love coming home to. And that doesn't mean it has to be the most expensive, on trend or tidiest, just that it feels right and like yours! I've opened my little black book of Australia's best interior design names and asked them to share just one tip (although a few couldn't stop at one!) to take your space next level. These are all things you can implement without spending much time or money. Enjoy!



GREG NATALE

Interior designer www.gregnatale.com

"One simple thing you can do to elevate your interiors at home is through decorative couch cushions. With cushions, you can begin to bring in layers of colour, pattern and texture, and you start giving a space some personality. It's an easy way to start thinking about the story you want your interior to tell."



SALLY RHYS-JONES

Interior architect www.sallyrhysjones.com

"My one thing would be declutter! Only have things in your home (or at least in sight!) that you love and have meaning to you. My rule is quality over quantity. Think Marie Kondo: do the things in your home spark joy? Within reason of course! I also find having a more clear space creates 'visual calm' and allows you to relax more."



STEVE CORDONY

Stylist

www.stevecordony.com

"Finding a signature home scent is the easiest way you can elevate your space but also create a special mood within the home that people will remember when they visit."



EMMA BLOMFIELD

Stylist and author www.emmablomfield.com

"Upscale the size of your artwork. Nothing says luxury like one artwork taking up an entire wall. Like the wall space in a stairwell or at the end of a hallway. Don't play too small!"



DARREN PALMER

Interior designer and The Block judge www.darrenpalmer.com

"I would say rugs, art and soft furnishings elevate spaces in the simplest possible way. You can add them into your existing spaces to add another layer of colour, pattern, scale and texture. Painting and wallpapering is transformative, but takes far more effort than hanging art or laying down a rug."



JULIET LOVE

Stylist and Better Homes & Gardens presenter www.julietlove.com.au

"The key to a stylish interior is in the detail. A few luxe elements go a long way. You can get away with an affordable sofa in a neutral tone if you add a couple of decorative cushions in an expensive fabric on top. Similarly, a designer throw at the end of your bed, an oversized artwork hung on the wall, or a large feature light will add an element of drama and sophistication. It only takes a few key features like this to elevate the entire room and allows you to relax more."



THOMAS HAMEL

Interior designer www.thomashamel.com

"A home should truly be a reflection of the owner – their personality, their travels, their lifestyle, the way they live. It's so important to be true to oneself, rather than falling for trends. It is also important to remember where you live, and in particular the climate. It's best not to design for the Hamptons if you live in a cold climate, or for the English countryside if you live in Australia."



BRENDAN WONG

Interior designer www.brendanwong.com

"Transform a room with a statuesque vase with personality. An expressive glass or ceramic vessel serves as sculpture when empty and holds long stemmed foliage and blooms for extra theatre when entertaining."



LYNNE BRADLEY

Interior designer www.lynnebradleyinteriors.com.au

"One thing is impossible for me so here are a few! Bring some indoor plants into your home and give everything a fresh coat of paint. Group your collections together, such as photo frames, vases, books etc. to make a new focal point. Rearrange your furniture (you can always move it back if you don't like it). And paint tired furniture and put some new knobs and handles on drawers and cupboards."



JULIA GREEN

Stylist and owner of Greenhouse Interiors www.greenhouseinteriors.com.au

"To make your home nicer, fill it with your own story: things that hold personal meaning to you. A home to me is like a cocoon of memories that make me feel good."



ALISA AND LYSANDRA FRASER

Interior designers, former Blockheads and owners of Alisa & Lysandra Interiors and al.ive Body www.alisaandlysandra.com.au

"To elevate your home's interior without spending a lot of money, try rearranging furniture and decor. Experiment with layouts, declutter, and update soft furnishings. Consider new wall decor, such as artwork and lighting. You can even repurpose old furniture or bring in indoor plants for a refreshing touch. These simple changes can transform your space and make it feel new."



JAMES TREBLE

Interior designer and TV presenter www.jamestreble.com

"The simplest thing that everyone can do in their home is to clean or freshen up their light switches and powerpoints! I know this may sound mundane, but it's actually an important detail! So many homes I walk into have marks and grime around light switches in particular, which makes a house appear uncared for and dated, no matter how old or new it is! Whilst you're doing this, consider if you need to update the fittings (which a qualified electrician can easily do) and at the same time consider the fitting style and colour. White is a safe go-to, but why not look at charcoal, black, perhaps light grey or a modern timber design. It's a relatively cost effective but dramatic way to update your home!"



LANA TAYLOR

Three Birds Renovations www.threebirdsrenovations.com

"This might sound like a copout, but I would say decluttering your home is the first step. It will make a really positive impact to get rid of all the bits and bobs you've accumulated over the years. Less is more."



NATALEE BOWEN

Interior designer, TV presenter and managing director of Indah Island www.indahisland.com

"Every season is an opportunity to create a fresh look in your home. Spring and summer you can enhance with greens tones with a fresh array of fabulous cushions and a stripe rug. Bringing the outdoors in with kentia palms, fresh flowers, and a citrus scented candle always creates a fresh feel. Winter and autumn is the time for neutrals with texture and warmer tones of caramels."



JASON GRANT

Stylist

www.mrjasongrant.com

"I love to create feel good spaces. I love to elevate the everyday, every day! For me, the best way to elevate your interior is to create a space that you love to be in. It's your space so do things your way; no need to worry about what everyone else is doing. It's important to love to be in the space you have created and to create everyday luxuries and these don't always have to cost a lot! Use the good stuff such as plates and glassware for every meal, not just for special occasions. Treat yourself to simple fresh flowers when you can."



LYNDA GARDENER

Stylist

www.lyndagardener.com

"Art! Buy a mix of interesting art (I generally collect portraits or landscapes from auction houses or markets), and make a feature wall out of the collection. It's so much fun and such a statement to create a gallery wall."

Image: Natalie Nowotarski for Lynda Gardener and Eva's Sunday



REBEKA MORGAN

Director of BuildHer Collective www.buildhercollective.com.au

"One thing that people can do to elevate their interior is notice, edit and curate. Clutter builds on us in daily life and if we can just take a moment to notice what we are doing, where we are putting things, what is working for us and what does and doesn't serve us, we can stop it. Clusters of items in various shapes and sizes can be interesting and by just taking a moment to practice you will learn what shapes and forms work well together and find that it will reinvigorate surfaces and rooms that have stayed stagnant."



NAOMI FINDLAY

Interior designer and renovator www.naomifindlay.com

"It's good practice to take a step back and consider every element of your interiors; how you want to feel in them and how you want to live in them.

A considered interior doesn't have to mean expensive. Use high/low decorating principals, recycle and refinish items and most of all inject you and inject love into the space!"



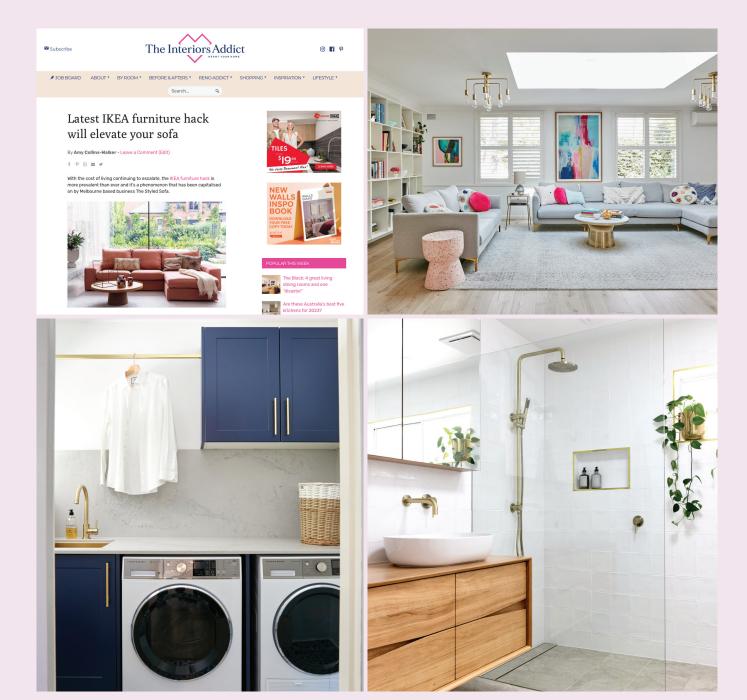
JESSI EVE

Stylist www.jessieve.com.au

"Add a beautiful rug to your living space or bedroom but be warned - size does matter! To ensure an elevated finish, supersize the rug to ensure it honours the scale of the room. For example, in a living area, opt for a rug large enough to "anchor" all furniture pieces within the space.

This means it not only fits the coffee table, but also (at least) the front legs of the sofa and any occasional chairs. In the instance of a bedroom, allow a generous amount of rug to act as a border around (at least) the lower two thirds of the bed to get the lovely sensation underfoot when hopping out of bed. The minimum size of the rug required will depend on bed size and the maximum will depend on room size. It's all about proportion."





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