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THE SPRING ISSUE

beautiful design MADE simple

a fresh perspective

*exploring simplified
and refreshed design*



7

entryway
designs

*Inspiration to create
functional beauty this
spring.*

on the cover

As a designer, I'm often asked by clients to make their homes more functional and family-friendly. A great place to start is by finding ways to add extra storage to the home. Mudrooms and small entry nooks are a perfect solution. In the case of this entry, I wanted to curate a space for my clients to have extra seasonal storage as well as a practical everyday place to grab daily items.

We turned an old mirrored coat closet into an inviting and functional nook, carrying the home's craftsman style and casual feel into the cabinetry with shaker style doors that hide shelves for bins of hats and gloves. We added a fresh and durable fabric cushion to the bench to make it feel homey and relaxed. The pop of art above is a welcome change from the typical hooks full of coats. It's a practical and clutter-free first impression in this home.

—Rebecca Hay of Rebecca Hay Designs



all things floors

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WELCOME



“A simplified life means that what has to get done will get done. And when we pare down life to its simplest, most beautifully basic parts, we’re left with room to enjoy each other, to rest, and to truly savor life with all our hearts, minds, and spirits.”

—Emily Ley

In every issue, we welcome our readers with a quote that speaks to the theme. We find Emily Ley’s quote particularly significant in that it’s both perfectly suited to our focus—*The Spring Cleanup*—but also relates to the fabric of *Beautiful Design Made Simple*.

With this issue, we remain true to our purpose of informing and inspiring beautiful spaces in our readers’ homes, but with a new, simplified, and cleaned-up take on what these spaces provide for our readers.

In the pages that follow, you’ll gain access to the creative minds of award-winning designers to explore the *Beauty of Less*, learn how to *Create the Illusion of Space*, and discover ways to *Reduce, Reuse, and Restyle* in your home. You’ll receive expert insight from our exclusive Q&A with designer Traci Zeller as she answers all of our must-know questions for the season and beyond. And you’ll explore the outdoors with seven ways to update your home’s outdoor spaces.

Additional features include our favorite seasonal palettes, a three-part style spotlight, and an inspiring look at the home’s hardest-working spaces. Plus, get a first look at a few of the Twenty for 2020 top flooring products. Marked by a special seal throughout the magazine, these floors were hand-selected by leading industry experts for their classic characteristics, trending styles, and cutting-edge technologies. This and more await you.

Welcome to The Spring Cleanup issue of *Beautiful Design Made Simple* brought to you by Carpet One Floor & Home.

Warm Regards,
Team BDMs

The image shows a rustic interior space. In the foreground, a thick, dark wood table is partially visible. Behind it, a wooden floor is covered with two dark, square stools. In the background, a white door with a six-pane window is set against a wall with a vertical wooden post. To the left, a window looks out onto a bright outdoor area. The text '1 of enchanting ENTRYWAYS' is overlaid in a dark brown, hand-drawn style. '1 of' is in a cursive script, 'enchanting' is in a larger cursive script, and 'ENTRYWAYS' is in a bold, serif font.

1 of
enchanting
ENTRYWAYS

YOUR HOME'S FIRST AND LAST IMPRESSION



LIGHT AND AIRY

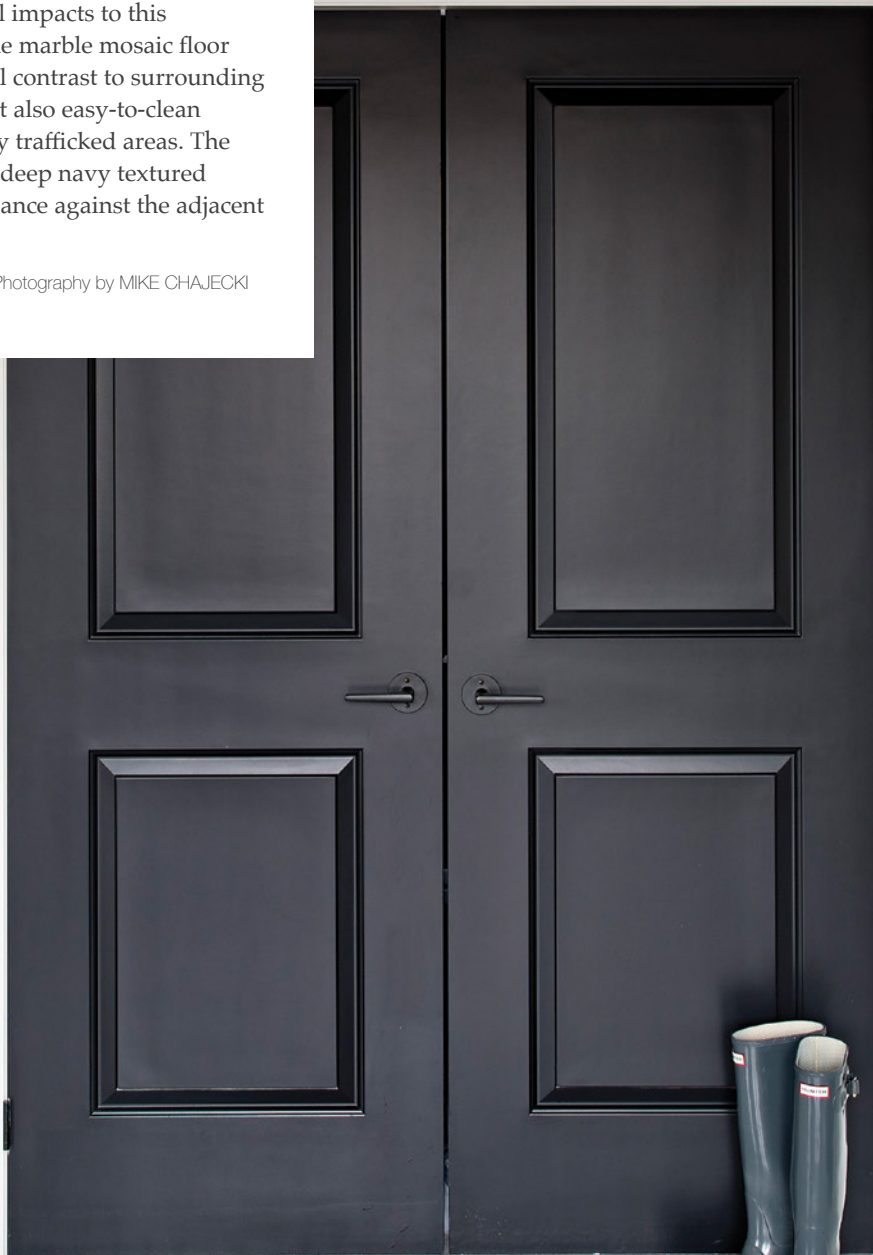
Bright white and blue, the colors in this entryway make it feel both warm and welcoming. The contrast of the gray tile with the light hardwood floors and the addition of cozy, neutral pillows embellishes the entryway to make it even more comfortable.

Design by REBECCA HAY Photography by JASON HARTOG

BOLD STATEMENT

Statement double doors finished in a beautiful satin black certainly stand out amongst the crowd, but surrounding elements make equal impacts to this entryway design. The marble mosaic floor not only offers visual contrast to surrounding hardwood floors, but also easy-to-clean durability for heavily trafficked areas. The ceiling, covered in a deep navy textured wallpaper, offers balance against the adjacent stand-out doors.

Design by REBECCA HAY Photography by MIKE CHAJECKI





MODERN SIMPLICITY

A small yet refined space, the deep blue hue of this built-in entryway offers a pop of color while the clean gold accents elevate the detail of the overall design. The curves in the handles on the side of the bench are subtle but sophisticated, attracting your eye to every element of this entryway piece.

Design by REBECCA HAY Photography by STEPHANI BUCHMAN



reuse recycle



restyle



your home



Written by Rebecca Hay
Interior design by Rebecca Hay Designs
Photography by Stephani Buchman



As a designer, my objective is to help tell the homeowner's story through a carefully curated collection of furnishings, art, accessories, and an overall aesthetic that speaks to them. Truth be told, I love antique hunting for my interior projects, and when my clients have their own hand-me-down pieces that they'd like incorporated into the design, even better.

There are so many benefits to including older furnishings as part of a new design. First of all, it's more cost efficient, with some fabulous items either already within your possession or available for purchase at a hefty discount. Repurposing existing furniture is not only greener for your wallet but is also better for the environment—and as we all know, environmentally friendly living starts at home.

Last but not least, as you purge your home of unwanted clutter, you'll notice an elevated aesthetic to properly showcase those pieces that you really love—regardless if they're old or new.

The “mix-and-match” trend

Older furnishings can lend your space a look that is particularly hot right now—it's cool and contemporary, yet warm with retro character. A lot of this comes by way of the beloved dents, scratches, and time you'll find covering antiques from top to toe. Aside from those, you'll also find handcrafted quality, time-honored traditions, and a good story or two. By highlighting a few thoughtfully selected, vintage objects, your space will have a “collected” and very deliberate look that's evocative of an art gallery.

The big purge

Step one to a successful “old-meets-new” interior is to really evaluate every piece you currently have in your space. Start by asking yourself: Do I need it? Do I have room for it? And do I love it? If you answered “yes” to all three of these questions, then it can stay.

Items that are damaged or broken belong on the curb. Most cities have great recycling programs for curbside pick-up. Furnishings, accessories,

small appliances, clothes, and toys that are gently used but no longer loved or needed should go into a “donate” pile. More and more charities and nonprofit organizations are popping up, eager to accept these still-good items for a good cause—and they will even come to collect them from your front door.

If you're even the slightest bit tech-savvy, you can always sell your used items online. As they say, one's trash is another's treasure and there's no shortage of people out there who can take your old items off your hands. Online is a great place to purchase these items as well, but more on that later!

Now that you've emptied out the space you'll be redesigning, you'll have to fill it up again! Now, before you lose your head (and your wallet), remember that in this case, less is more. The objective here is a highly curated aesthetic, so ensure the few items you choose to showcase make the right statement in your space.



The art of “up-cycling”

You likely have some solidly built furniture items you can't quite part with. Perhaps they look dowdy and dated. But really look at them, and you'll surely find something you love. The quality construction, the unique lines, the comfort. This is where “up-cycling” offers a great option. As designers, my team and I have been doing this much more frequently, and we're glad to see this trend picking up speed.

It's easy to repurpose old dining chairs, sofas, armchairs, tables, and even lighting by refinishing them. A fresh coat of paint in a trendy color or adding a new fabric can instantly update and bring a tired piece back to life. No one will even suspect that it was ever—dare I say it—once destined for the curb.

Antique hunting

So what if you haven't inherited any cherished antiques? It might surprise you, but there are high-end and affordable finds right at your doorstep. These unicorns do exist and they are called “consignment stores.” Vintage décor is popular now, and good pieces are easy to find at places like consignment shops, estate sales, and flea markets. These secondhand furniture hot spots are filled with high-end, beautifully made gems that tell a story.

An added bonus is that the quality of some older furnishing can be vastly superior to some pieces that are being manufactured today, proving that they sure don't make 'em like they used to!



Strike a balance

Once you find your furniture, accessory, or light fixture, mix it up by selecting some newer, more contemporary items to blend into the space. When creating an “old-meets-new” look at home, remember the design rule of repetition: a single modern element will look out of place in a sea of antiques. Be sure to balance these different styles with an equal ratio of pieces. Up-cycling is a great way to achieve that perfect balance of old and new, with a truly one-of-a-kind, custom piece you’ll never find in any shop.

Accessories

With the furniture side of things covered, the last area to focus on is the accessories. I love to incorporate old, vintage finds from unexpected places. They become like buried treasures, tucked away on shelves, bookcases, and side tables. I prefer this to any mass-produced piece found in a big-box store. Scour antique stores, flea markets, and garage sales for some real beauties and bargains—it’s worth the effort. Not only will you be doing your part for the planet by minimizing your carbon footprint, but you’ll also be bringing lots of character and interest into the interior space.





Think “vertical” as a great way to showcase those interesting, vintage decorations and collections. Using a wall to store and showcase your pieces will help liven up the room without creating tabletop clutter or occupying valuable square footage. Dedicated wall storage means you’ll finally have a home for all those unconventional and perhaps unused items that still tell a good story.

Consider enhancing your display cases with dimmable integrated lighting. This will highlight your collections and turn them into a focal point in the room while adding illumination and ambience to the overall space.

Think outside the box

When it comes to your used pieces, think strategically. Not everything is destined for the trash. Consider finding new uses for old objects. This is a fun way to challenge your creative side. Simple projects, like converting an old suitcase or trunk into a trendy side table or turning a sewing machine table into a vanity, can be an interesting approach to up-cycling that becomes a talking point for visitors and perhaps creates something cherished enough to be handed down. By repurposing pieces you already own, you’ll keep objects you’d otherwise never use out of the basement and better yet, out of the dumpster.

This old-meets-new, mix-and-match approach to interiors is much loved, and popular among homeowners and the design industry alike for many reasons. My team and I have certainly made a concerted effort to change our approach to our profession. Old and new can work together in perfect harmony, and they must for us to do our part for the planet. Reusing, recycling, and up-cycling takes some know-how, forethought, and a keen eye for style. Working with an unbiased professional designer can help you objectively weed out the trash from the treasure and identify the items that are truly worth keeping.





CONTRIBUTORS



REBECCA HAY

Rebecca Hay Designs

Principal of Rebecca Hay Designs, Rebecca is known and celebrated for her work and appearances on various acclaimed HGTV shows. With a focus on quality and craftsmanship, Rebecca and her team design beautiful, functional spaces, creating a signature blend of traditional and contemporary interiors.

rebeccahaydesigns.com
[@rebeccahaydesigns](https://www.instagram.com/rebeccahaydesigns)



TRACI ZELLER

Traci Zeller Interiors

Crisp lines, classic sensibilities, and chic palettes are the cornerstones of Traci Zeller's aesthetic. Founder and principal of Traci Zeller Interiors, Traci's award-winning work has been featured in national design publications like *Better Homes and Gardens* and *Traditional Home*.

tracizeller.com
[@tracizeller](https://www.instagram.com/tracizeller)



ANNIE FAIR

Annie Fair Design

Annie Fair is an interior designer based in Charlotte, North Carolina. As a North Carolina native, a former Los Angeles resident of 17 years, and a graduate of the NYC-based Parsons School of Design, Fair maintains a growing number of projects on both the East and West coasts. Before starting her own namesake firm in 2017, the talented designer honed her skillset under the wings of Kelly Wearstler, Michael Smith, and House of Honey.

anniefairdesign.com
[@anniefairdesign](https://www.instagram.com/anniefairdesign)



ANDREA COLMAN

Fine Finishes Design

Andrea Colman is principal of Fine Finishes Design. With almost two decades of renovation and design experience, her full-service firm services clientele throughout the Greater Toronto Area. The growing boutique design firm is known for creating stylish, harmonious, livable environments.

finefinishes.ca
[@fine_finishes_design](https://www.instagram.com/fine_finishes_design)



RACHAEL BAIHN

LawnStarter

Rachael Baihn is an avid gardener, both indoors and in her backyard sanctuary. She can often be found exploring nature off the beaten track or enjoying the company of local neighborhood dogs.

lawnstarter.com