



Interior Inspirations

Fall: A New Beginning

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Ahh, Fall...

Crisp cool days, gorgeous sunsets, brightly colored autumn leaves, pumpkin carving, the sweet smell of warm apple pie, football games shared with family and friends, and oh - did I forget to mention the sound of the school bus each weekday morning! Ahh, fall, a time to enjoy the wonders of nature as well as a time to get back into the swing of things.

Fall is my favorite time of year. I love everything about it! I know for many of us it's almost like the beginning of a new year. After a fun and relaxing summer enjoying the outdoors and family vacation time, now is the time we get back to business. With the kids in school, this is often when we set a new routine for ourselves and begin planning those home projects before the holidays.

As a decorator, fall is my busiest season for that very reason. You've tackled the outdoor projects that were on your list and now it's time to move inside.

This fall marks a new beginning for me with the debut of

my quarterly newsletter "Interior Inspirations." I love what I do and if I can share helpful tips and information with you, even better! An informed client is a happy client and I want you all to enjoy your homes. After all, our home is our haven, the place we retreat to at the end of the day to relax and unwind, and a place where lasting family memories are created. I hope each newsletter excites you with ideas for the season while keeping you informed about new services, products and decorating solutions.

Have a question or decorating dilemma? Feel free to email me so that I may include your inquiry in the "Ask Heidi" column. Also, if there is a topic that you would like to see in an upcoming issue, I'd love your input.

As we enter the fall season, remember to "warm up" your home and make it a comfortable retreat for the shorter days and cool nights ahead. As always, if you need help, I'd be more than happy to work with you in creating the space you so desire!

Happy Fall,

Dragonfly Interiors

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Did You Know?

Dragonfly Interiors carries a full line of Hunter Douglas® products as well as styles from Graber®, Lafayette Fashions® & others ? For all of your blinds, shades & window covering needs, give us a call.

We come to you!

Redesign ~ Reorganize ~ Refresh The Three R's of Selling Your Home



Real estate staging is the way to go if you are looking to sell your home. Staging, which originated on the West Coast and is steadily moving East, is the process of getting your home prepared to enter the real estate market. The way we live in our home and the way it is prepared for the market are two different things. With staging, the goal is to present your home so that it appeals to a wide range of potential buyers. In today's market a staged home yields a higher sale price. That means more money in your pocket!

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In October I will be attending a Staging Certification Program, and I am excited to offer this additional service. Over the summer I have been working with a professional organizer and a cleaning company designing a package plan that that will suit our clients' needs as well as Realtors® who are working with sellers.

Together, we will be offering the following services:

Redesign– Arranging furnishings, artwork, etc. to create inviting spaces that highlight the home's focal points.

Reorganize– Removing the clutter, reorganizing and getting a jump-start on packing for your upcoming move.

Refresh– A final cleaning that leaves your home sparkling fresh for your showings.

Need help in one area more than the others? Looking to customize these services to fit your needs? Not a problem. We'll work with you to get the job done.

For more information regarding these services for yourself, someone you know, or a Realtor® who may benefit from offering the package plan to clients, please feel free to contact me.

Reader Resources



Looking for a professional with an exceptional reputation? Tired of taking chances with someone you found in the Yellow

Pages? Below is a list of highly recommended professionals that I have personally worked or networked with. Looking for a profession that isn't listed here? I'd be happy to help you find the person who suits your need.

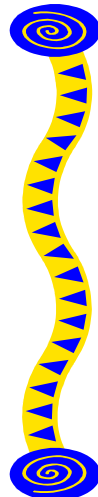
- ♦ **Feng Shui:** The Feng Shui Center, Beth Herosy, 401-273-0273 www.TheFengShuiCenter.com
- ♦ **Mortgage:** Province Mortgage Associates, Inc., Justine Chonoles, 401-490-4400 www.provincemai.com
- ♦ **Landscaping Design:** Curb Appeal Landscaping, Rick Slavinski, 508-286-4163
- ♦ **Personal Chef:** Made From Scratch, Carol D'Espinosa, 508-285-7302 www.madefromscratchchef.com
- ♦ **Recruiting & Consulting:** Baldwin Recruiting & Consulting, Tom Jack, 401-949-1093 www.baldwinrecruiting.com

What is Feng Shui?

Feng Shui (pronounced “fung shway”) is an ancient Chinese philosophy. Literally translated as “wind-water,” feng shui is the practice of placement and arrangement of space to achieve harmony with the environment. The three major concepts of feng shui are the flow of energy; the balance of yin and yang; and the interaction of the five elements in the universe which are fire, earth, metal, water and wood. When a space is arranged using feng shui principles, harmony within the universe, nature and you is achieved. It is also possible to activate areas of your life that you wish to improve such as career, health and relationships.

Sound a little confusing? I understand! If you are interested in learning some feng shui basics that you can use in your home or office, a great book to read is “*Move Your Stuff, Change Your Life*” by Karen Rauch Carter. This book is an easy read and will break down feng shui principles in simple, understandable terms. It will even make you chuckle! Look for feng shui tips in every quarterly newsletter.

If you are looking to hire an expert Feng Shui consultant, *Beth Herosy* of *The Feng Shui Center* is the one to call. Her contact information is located in the “*Reader Resources*” section of this newsletter. Be sure to check out Beth’s Web site for upcoming workshops.



Dear Heidi,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for the work you have done for me, but especially to let you know how pleased I am with the outcome.

You took a bland, empty condo and turned it into a place that really feels like home. And while colors, furniture and accessories are all important, it is your ability to capture the essence of my style and personality that has really made all the difference. Thanks again for all of your help and patience.

John

Boston, MA

Ask Heidi!

Q. *What are your decorating secrets? How do decorators and designers manage to make it all work?*



A. *There are no real secrets although there are some rules of thumb when it comes to decorating. Decorators and designers are trained professionals who have honed their skills, read everything they can get their hands on, attended seminars and trainings and often have received certifications for a specific field of study. Decorators and designers get it right because they work hard at it. They also have a unique talent for design, are astute observers and pay close attention to what works in a space and what doesn't. Working with a decorator or designer should be a fun, satisfying and most important, a collaborative effort where a client's input is always welcome. After all, it's your space!*



Feng Shui Dos & Dont's

- ◆ Do position your bed so that it is not in line with the entrance to your bedroom, especially if your feet point towards the entrance.
- ◆ Don't place the head of your bed against a wall shared with a bathroom.

“A buried talent is never a buried treasure. Talents become treasures only through use.” ~ H. Rupert

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- Design & Consultation
 - Shades, Blinds & Shutters
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Fall Ideas You'll Fall For!

- ♦ Change lighter-weight accessories for something a little bit heavier.
- ♦ Change your sofa pillows and add a cozy throw to the back of the sofa for instant warmth to your room.
- ♦ Put together an arrangement of autumn berries, fruits and nuts with colors of oranges, reds, yellows and greens for your dining room table. If you plan on displaying a centerpiece during a dinner party, keep the centerpiece below eye-level so your guests can converse without an obstructed view.
- ♦ Fill tinted glass hurricanes with bright berry branches and place on your mantel. Add clusters of various size candles for a warm glow.
- ♦ Hollow out gourds or apples and place a tea light inside for a fun autumn flair.
- ♦ Add accent lighting (especially to dark corners) to prepare for shorter days and longer nights.
- ♦ Purchase a large decorative basket or bin and place by your door for mittens, scarves and hats as the cooler weather arrives.
- ♦ Contain the “back-to-school fridge art” by creating a flip album. Remove the rings and metal backing from a 3-ring binder. Insert sheet protectors and attach magnets to the back. Slide artwork into the sheet protectors. Replace each piece with a new work of art and save the “special masterpieces” in a keepsake box.

Caramel Apple Cider

Cider

- 1/4 c heavy cream
- 1/4 c brown sugar
- 3 c apple cider
- 1/2 c water



Caramel Whipped Cream

- 1/2 c heavy cream
- 1 tbsp. brown sugar

Bring cream & brown sugar to a boil over medium heat. Stir in cider & water raising heat to medium high heat until cider begins to steam, about 4 minutes. Divide among 4 mugs & top each with 2 tbsp. of whipped cream & serve.

Caramel Whipped Cream: In chilled bowl, whip heavy cream with brown sugar until soft peaks form. Enjoy!