



LIVE in STYLE Newsletter

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*"Blessed are they
who see beautiful
things in humble
places where other
people see
nothing"*

~ Camille Pissarro

***Your ideas and
suggestions for
the following
issues are
always
welcome***

***Please take a
moment to
check out my
website:***

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Style File: Onyx Stone

Onyx is becoming a hot selection for upscale kitchen renovations nowadays. It is a natural stone that is considered to be semi precious. Onyx is known for its translucent beauty, natural colors (from white to gold to green) and unique patterns. It is formed of dissolved limestone that redeposits. It is a calcareous stone (calcium carbonate), which means it is softer and more brittle than granite, slate or other types of natural stone. Calcareous stone absorbs more liquid and is more difficult to maintain than other types of stone, and it shows imperfections easily. Onyx is mostly used as a decorative element rather than the main design element. It is becoming popular for kitchen backsplashes as well as in free standing structures such as sinks, wash basins and tiles.

Furniture Tips: Mudroom or Entryway Furniture

Mudrooms are great for stowing away items that really don't have a designated place in the house and while a separate mudroom can be a real gift, there are times when one has to do with an entryway that doubles up as a mudroom. So, choose furniture items that look good, can take a lot of wear and tear and are easy to maintain and use.

- The most important feature of any furniture in the mudroom is durability. Whether you choose a sturdy storage bench or a cabinet, the item must be able to withstand rough and frequent use as well as spots and stains. Reserve the more delicate furniture pieces for other parts of the home.
- While mudroom and entryway furniture must be durable, it should also be good looking. This is especially true if the entryway doubles up as a mudroom. Invest in pieces that complement the décor of your home.
- Space-saving furniture items are a homeowner's dream come true. Storage benches, wall shelving units and over-the-door shoe storage are just a few options that can be easily used in a small mudroom or entryway to stow away stuff and maximize available space.
- One of the most important features of mudroom and entryway furniture items will be ease of maintenance. Look for storage benches, shoes racks and cabinets that require just a quick wipe or clean and don't have any elaborate carvings that can collect dust or metal parts that may rust easily. Do waterproof items that would be used to store wet clothes or shoes.

So, when out buying furniture for the mudroom, do keep durability, looks and ease of use and maintenance in mind. Entryways will look organized, neat and beautiful when furnished with closets and cabinets that hold the clutter inside and look good on the outside.

LIVE in STYLE

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Décor Ideas: Decorating with Velvet

Velvet fabric was very popular in the 60's and 70's and now is in style again! It is an elegant fabric to use when decorating a home. This sumptuous fabric has been used throughout history to add a royal touch. From the middle ages to modern times, velvet has represented luxury and opulence. Once reserved for wealthy, velvet is now less expensive than in the past and is an affordable way to add a note of distinction to a living room or bedroom.

Velvet is a tightly woven fabric that is manufactured with loops on one side. The loops are cut, creating a smooth nap (also referred to as pile). This pile gives velvet a very soft and appealing texture. Velvet can be made from a variety of fibres, including silk, rayon, cotton or a synthetic fibre like polyester. Silk and rayon velvet have a soft drape and lustrous surface, but are delicate and must be treated with care. Synthetic velvets are heavier and a less expensive choice for home decorating. Cotton velvet is another practical choice for home decorating due to its affordable price and superior durability.

There are many ways that velvet can be used for home decorating. Furniture upholstery, slipcovers and trim made of velvet will add a sophisticated touch to a living room. Velvet bedspreads and quilts create a luxurious bedroom look. Velvet can also be used for curtains. Combining velvet curtains with sheer draperies is a traditional and classic window treatment.

The plush texture and soft sheen of velvet can be used to create a focal point in a room. Velvet pillows and cushions are the perfect way to add a touch of luxury. A throw made of velvet is another way to include this elegant fabric in a room's décor.

Did You Know...: How Colors Represent Emotions?

Red: Excitement, Lively, Easily Bored, Hasty, Passionate

Pink: Sensitive, Kind, Sweet Disposition, Romantic

Yellow: Happy, Playful, Optimistic, Spontaneous

Blue: Calm, Trustworthy, Loyalty, Daydreamer: // Serious, Conservative

Gray: Reserved, noncommittal

Green: Safe, Good willed, Generous: // Stubborn

Brown: Dependable, Loyal

Purple: Negotiator, Well Liked, Mysterious

Orange: Gregarious, Dynamic, Fun