

Whole House Design

Hi, everyone! I've recently been put in a position to talk to you about Whole House Design, and on a very personal level. I'm moving! And, I realized that it is one of the few times that you think about the design and coloration of your entire home at once.



Generally, Matt and I recommend working on one room at a time, but in certain circumstances, like a move, or when building a new home, you have to think about a little more!

Well, as you can see, I'm pretty much packed. At this writing, (early December) the movers are coming in one week, and I will move into the new house in two weeks. During the week we are in limbo, we are adding a tile floor and pulling out a built in cabinet so our own furniture will fit. But, that is yet to come. Right now, I can start the design process and I'd like you to come along for the ride.



you that I do practice what I preach. through magazines and pull out done just that and I have found that I color ranges.....here, take a look.

This group of photos shows a lot of brown, cream and red. A little more cream than any of the other colors, but brown and red, or even an orangy-tone seem to be the accent colors.



I knew this was a color grouping that I was particularly fond of because as you can see, almost everything in my home is now in that color range! I have a brown sectional, a plaid chair with browns and cream, and accessory pillows that share those colors too. The cream pillow is from another sectional and I have a couple of red

chairs with palm fronds. (I bought those here in Florida to fit in a little better!) When you lay everything together like this, you can really see a pattern forming.

This pillow is from a sofa that Matt and I have shared for years. The fabric is still one of my favorites, and notice that the same family of colors is here with the



Well, wouldn't you know it, the other color family I keep pulling out of magazines is this pretty aqua blue. So, how do I blend these two opposing color families together? Well, fortunately, my floor plan helps me there a bit.

Here is the entry, living room and dining room. They are very separate from the kitchen, and family room. What I'm hoping is that I can paint the living and dining room in an aqua and go with my warmer tones in the kitchen and family room.



Well, while I'm mulling this over, I was shopping and found this dinnerware pattern. Notice the design, there is a sailing ship, palm trees and yes, my aqua blue. You may not know this but I have several model sailboats that I've collected over the years and they would be perfect in a room with this dinnerware.

I was so excited I started looking around for co-ordinating pieces and I picked up another set and found this great brown rimmed dinner plate. Well, this sure helps tie the browns to the aquas. Then, I noticed that the original

plate has bowls with pineapples on them. Well, my new kitchen has pineapple tiles in the backsplash, so, I decided it was a sign!! I'm definitely going with the aqua in one area and the warmer browns and reds in another.



If you are like me, you get really excited about the possibilities when “signs” like this pop up. So, I grabbed a piece of the tile from the new house, brought in my sectional pillow, my sailboats, and the china. OOO YAA! That part is going to work.

The next step is to start considering the wall color in the rooms. Remember, this will be the entry, living room and dining room. (Right now I'm leaning towards the middle blue.) Although, I will make sample boards before I make my final decision.



family items to see how nicely they come a good time to consider paint in and family room. I chose mostly

neutrals so far to keep with the design of the photos I pulled. Remember, mostly cream with brown and red accents?

OK, I had to do it, I had to bring both color schemes together to see if I thought it was going to be possible. Well, it really didn't look too bad to me. I will have to find just the right place to stop the aqua paint, and start the neutral. I will also try to find a way to bring these colors together somehow. Hmm, perhaps in the center of it all - the kitchen.



to fit in this tropical, sailing, theme blue on that rooster? Have you ever are everywhere and they are both be honest with me.....am I trying too

Well, I have a couple weeks to think about it, play with more colors and consider a different inspiration

piece other than that china. In the meantime I'll keep packing, do some shopping around and flipping through magazines to see if I can find anything I like better. I have to remember that this is MY house, MY surroundings, and if I am happy and feel good when I am there, that is all that matters. If you are going through the same thing, a move or perhaps building, please keep that in mind for yourself as well.

And, that's as far as I can go until we get into the house. So, stay tuned, this story is just getting started!!!

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