

HOME UPDATE

TIPS AND TRICKS FOR A BEAUTIFUL HOME



Total home REFRESH

SPRUCE UP YOUR SPACE WITH NEW FURNITURE TRENDS AND OUR FAVOURITE 'SPRING HAS SPRUNG' BUYS

With spring in the air, there's no better time to shake things up, and freshen up your space. Architect, Natasha Laurent, shares the season's latest trends and her advice on how to make them work in your home.

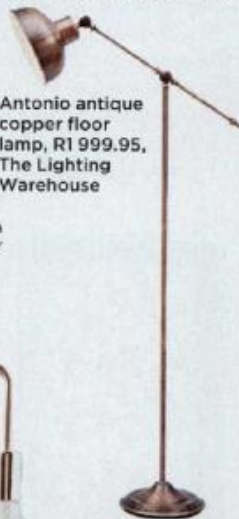
Change and re-arrange

The way your furniture's arranged has a large influence on the look and feel of your space. Simply re-arranging your furniture according to how you use a room can help you maximise on space, and really change the look and feel of the whole area.

Natasha advises against anchoring furniture along walls. 'People tend to push all their furniture against walls. Instead, let furniture float and anchor itself on a generous rug,' she says.

Keep entranceways clear and organise your space in order to meet your needs. 'If your main focus when you're in your lounge is on your children, centre the room around their play space and put their toys in beautiful baskets,' says Natasha. 'If you enjoy reading while the family watches TV or plays games, separate the lounge area with furniture pieces like your amazing book collection and a beautiful lamp.'

Antonio antique copper floor lamp, R1 999.95, The Lighting Warehouse



Copper lamp, R699, Woolworths

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Visit us online to learn how to make your own gorgeous clothes rail.

NATASHA'S TOP TIP

Your lounge doesn't have to be arranged around your TV!

When it comes to the bedroom, Natasha suggests adopting a no-clutter approach. 'The less clutter you have in your bedroom, the better,' she says. 'Make your bedroom a real sanctuary so you feel rested and organised in this space.'

If your cupboard's exploding with clothes and you find yourself piling worn clothes on 'the chair', she suggests investing in a gorgeous clothes rail or display hanger so you can hang your outfit ready for the next day instead of scratching around in a pile of clothes.

'Bulky pedestals can also be space killers,' says Natasha. 'Have fun with storage pieces and display your favourite jewellery so you don't have to untangle anything when you want to wear it.'

Henry Chaise by La-Z-Boy, price on request



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Mix and match

'Lounge suites with a 3-seater, 2-seater, and armchair are passé,' says Natasha. 'They really limit your options in terms of how you can play with your lounge space.' If you're keen to shake things up, Natasha suggests hanging on to the couch you use most and reupholstering it if it's beginning to look a bit shabby. 'There's always one awkward piece of furniture that no one sits on – sell it,' she says. 'As for that huge coffee table everyone keeps stubbing their toes on? Sell that too. It might hold your space together, but a carpet can also do that.'



'It's best to mix and match individual pieces,' says Natasha. 'You don't need an 8-seater dining-room table if you're a family of three that never entertains. Similarly, with living-room sets, sell the awkward "matchy" armchair and opt for a statement chair or some ottomans that'll allow more flexibility when organising your space.'

When kitting out your lounge, consider one of La-Z-Boy's comfy couches, like this Soho 2-seater (price on request), upholstered in one of their iClean fabric options, which repel everyday spills before they have a chance to turn into stains.

Spring into colour

'Green is the Pantone colour for 2017, and it's definitely here to stay,' says Natasha. 'Green is a beautiful palette to work from whether you use jade, bottle green, mint, earthy asparagus, emerald tones, or khaki. Let the greens you've incorporated into your space so far form the foundation and inspiration for the new colours you bring in.'

Natasha says these are the fresh colours to add to your space this season:

- ▶ Pink ▶ Royal blue ▶ Tangerine
- ▶ Jade green ▶ Copper



Cara planter, R79, Volpes

Green frayed scatter, R225, Woolworths

Tara planter, R79, Volpes



Classic frame 15 x 20cm, R59.99, MRP Home



Opt for smart furniture solutions like MRP Home's glass coffee table oak drawer, R799.99, which offers clever storage compartments and slides conveniently under the urban glass coffee table, R2 500

FIND INSPIRATION



The theme of the 2017 Cape Homemakers Expo is *A Tribute To Your Home*, and it takes place from 31 August-3 September at the CTICC. You'll find lots of gorgeous decor inspiration and an impressive range of products and professional services for improving your home. Visit Homemakersonline.co.za/exhibitions for more info. Tickets are available at the door and at Quicket.co.za

Florals – always in style

Natasha says florals are always in for spring, and shares the following tips for the 2017/2018 season:

- ★ Baby pink and green are beautiful together.
- ★ Mexican florals are in – rich greens mixed with fuchsia, red, and turquoise.
- ★ Botanical prints are still popular this season, but the current trend is to incorporate more bright colours like tangerine into the tropical prints we saw last summer.
- ★ When incorporating florals into your space, play with different textures like rich velvets and weaves in terms of fabric, mixed with glass and ceramic items.

Competition time!

Stand a chance to win one of four LG 2.0 Titan Washing machines, worth R5 000 each, plus 3 months' supply of OMO Auto Liquid (4 x 1.5L OMO). Enter at Yourfamily.co.za before 27 August. Terms and conditions apply.

