

Home *Design*

The Art of Combining Functionality & Design

By Patty Kovacevich



Because of our gorgeous climate, our abundance of landscape variances, and our fabulously eclectic lifestyles, there are infinite choices in home design for Southern Californians.

Our warm climate beckons us to delight in our expansive outdoor lifestyles while also bringing nature itself into certain aspects of our home's exterior and interior design and décor.

Think about it. We can actually feast on a few hours of downhill skiing in snowcapped mountains in the morning and still catch a few Pacific waves before sunset – all in the very same day. We can have traditional, sweet-smelling eucalyptus trees billowing in the breeze of our front lawns along with a stepping-stone garden of desert succulents leading to our front entry.

Whatever our lifestyle, however varied a life we live, whether it's ritzy soirees or small, private gatherings, we can indulge our passions when designing our home and create our own little bit of nirvana, our sacred space, our paradiso on earth. Elegance rules in Southern California, and architectural and decor variations evoke the joy of living in this wonderland, so yearned for by people around the globe.

Assessing how we prefer to balance dwelling and setting begins our home design project. What structural design would best fit into the silhouette of the land and the existing landscape? Are there distinctive points of the property that deserve to be preserved? What style of curb appeal infuses you with interest and intrigue? How will the landscaping frame your home in a complementary visual? No matter how nice the landscaping appears, if it doesn't balance with the home design it will not look right.

Photography By Martin Mann





What sort of architectural preferences best exhibit your true self? Clean, crisp contemporary? European-style Mediterraneo? Timeless traditional? Coastal chic? Relaxed ranch? Why not add an indulging design touch like a welcoming porte cochere or a cozy, outdoor fireplace, regardless of your primary architectural theme?

Do you dare not be eco-friendly in today's going-green world? How can you support an earth-friendly environment while indulging your desire for the stunning home of your dreams? Think of your dwelling as a priceless work of art and design it as if it will live on forever. But while you're at it, be hip and remember that green is very in.

Floor plans call for an assessment of your lifestyle, actually a reassessment of preserving what you like about your life and discarding past styles that you know simply no longer work for you. A good design plan balances function with beauty. Home needs to beckon you, not just showcase elegance. Transforming the ordinary into the spectacular requires staging richly woven details and décor that reflect your signature style. Mixing a distinctly elegant alcove with a wide-open veranda for comfortable entertaining exhibit uncompromised custom design.

Your décor is a peek at your true artisan self. Rooms lushly bathed in rare fabrics and warm, rich furnishings create a seductive, sophisticated look that can be all yours.



Provocatively glamorous accents surprisingly splashed amidst a recognized theme can leave every visitor with a lasting impression of your decorative signature, that is, of what you hold to be truly beautiful.

Originality combined with masterful pieces that have stood the test of time creates a canvas of sensory uniqueness. Unusual yet refined can convey a somewhat distinctly bohemian side of the homeowner's personality.

Whose lasting impression is most important? At the end of the day, it is yours. While home design reveals more to others than we think, our home is ideally where we spend most of our hours of every day. Home is our space to rest, replenish, restore. After a long day, the spatial experience can quietly transform us into beings of contentment with its splendor, its beauty, and its rejuvenating essence. Listen carefully. Can you hear the sound of beauty in your own home?

