

# What an Interior Designer Can Do For You



Custom designed marble fireplace centers Chinese antiques in transitional setting.

**S**O YOU'VE DECIDED TO CREATE a new look for your home. Whether you're starting with an empty space or are ready to update your home's existing décor, creating an appealing interior design can be pleasurable and rewarding. It also can be confusing and frustrating given the array of products to select, schedules to coordinate and people to manage. You're probably not looking forward to dealing with contractors, salespeople and consultants who can each contribute only their limited services for your project.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if you could hire one person to manage all the details of a design project, from purchasing products to supervising the project? Good news! The simplest and most effective way to get the results you want is by putting an interior designer in charge of your entire project. A designer can bring experience, expertise, and a professional touch to your project, and may be more affordable than you might think.

A designer can help you with much more than just furniture and fabric selection. Designers have the ability to see "the big picture" of your project. They will work with vendors and contractors to ensure that all of the little things come together into your desired finished project. They can foresee problems and manage the overall process to make it as smooth as possible.

Saving time and money and reducing hassles are among the many benefits of working with interior designers. They have access to many resources that you may not be aware of and as a result can offer you truly unique products.

You can start preparing for your project by deciding

what current design elements you would like to keep. Then, begin looking at furniture stores and model homes to get some inspiration for your project. Note some preferences so that when you meet with your designer, you can give them an idea of your goals. Next, come up with a realistic budget and develop a list of priorities. Make sure you tell your designer how the spaces should function. All of this information is essential to helping the designer create the perfect design for your needs and desires.

What's the best way to identify an accredited designer in your area? Several interior design associations establish professional qualifications. The American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), the country's oldest and largest organization, accredits only designers who have passed rigorous professional testing. The International Interior Designers Association (IIDA) also qualifies its members by education, tenure, and testing. In addition, designers who are CID- Certified Interior Designers- with the State of California are further qualified, up to date and knowledgeable about current design issues.

Call in an expert and relax as your design project comes to life- on time, on budget and on target.

For more information, you can contact Joy Wood at Mirage Interiors, 5589 E. Santa Ana Canyon Road, Anaheim Hills, CA; or call (714) 998-4439. ■

