

Brenda's Bulletin

ReDesigns

by Brenda

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 29, 2010

your home. your furnishings. restyled.

It was a pleasure meeting many of you on January 9, when *Real Deals Home Décor* hosted *Redesigns by Brenda* for the day. I appreciated and very much enjoyed the opportunity to talk to several of you about your decorating and color successes and challenges. Congratulations to the winners of the drawing for a complimentary 90 minute redesign in their home! Thank you to Natalie, owner of *Real Deals Home Décor* and I look forward to more appearances there in the future!

Now that the Christmas and New Year's holidays are over and a new decade is in full swing, many of us are thinking of the next holiday, Valentine's Day. It's a day of romance, sweets, and celebrating the loves of our lives. Do you find that the more love and romance you put into your relationships, the more they give you back in return? Well, the same is true when we consider our relationship with our home. So, this February, don't forget to romance your home! You might be asking yourself, "How in the world do I romance my home?" Well, there are many ways, but here are a few to get you started:

It's a new year, a new decade, and the winter months are a perfect time for de-cluttering, cleaning, and organizing your home's interior. Donate, repurpose, or throw away items that you don't use anymore. Even the most beautifully decorated home won't look as nice with piles of clutter strewn about. Cleaning, de-cluttering, and organizing your rooms would be like surprising your home with a lovely bouquet of red roses for Valentine's Day! How about a new furniture arrangement in your living room? Try re-

arranging the furniture into a comfy conversation area centered around the focal point in the room, which will give your room definition and direction. Your focal point may be a fireplace, a picture window, a beautiful piece of art or furniture, or even the media center. Try angling your furniture, especially if your room is a square shape. Make sure your room feels balanced, meaning that the large, heavy pieces are evenly



distributed in the space and not all on one side of the room, for example. Experiment with moving your furnishings into different rooms for a refreshing change. Treating your rooms to a new furniture arrangement would be like giving your home a beautifully arranged dish of assorted, gourmet chocolates for Valentine's Day!

How about adding color to your rooms? Painting the walls can have a dramatic impact on your home's interior. In a bedroom, for example, for a feeling of

spaciousness, try painting the walls a light, low intensity color that coordinates with your bedding. Soft blues and greens are particularly soothing and restful in a bedroom. For a cozier feeling, use darker, high intensity, warm colors that coordinate with the items you already have in the room. You can also add splashes of an accent color to a room using accessories. Remember that when using accent colors, to repeat the color in the room at least three times. For example, if your accent color is red-orange, place a red-orange vase on the coffee table, a red-orange throw on the chair, and a piece of art on the wall with red-orange in it. With rooms that are open to each other, try bringing your accent color into both rooms for a feeling of cohesiveness. Adding color to your rooms would be like lavishing your home with a sparkling diamond heart necklace for Valentine's Day!

This February, treating your home to a few romantic gestures will be well worth your efforts. Your home will reward you with feelings of comfort, warmth, and happiness. Our home environment can have a positive or negative impact on our moods and how we feel. Make the choice to be in a happy mood and feel fantastic in 2010! Warning: you may not want to leave the house! Plus, these ideas are longer lasting than a bouquet of red roses, less fattening than a dish of gourmet chocolates, and less expensive than a diamond heart necklace!

Romance the special loves of your life this February... and don't forget your home! Let your home know that you would choose it all over again! You won't even need to purchase an expensive, three stone, diamond ring!

2010 Color of the Year!

Pantone, the global authority on color, announced that Turquoise is the color of the year for 2010. Turquoise combines the calming, tranquil qualities of blue with the invigorating qualities of green, and inspires us to think about tropical waters, relaxation, and escape from our everyday troubles.

"In many cultures, Turquoise occupies a very special position in the world of color," explains Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color



quise adds a splash of excitement to brown chairs and it would have a similar effect with neutral furnishings such as tan, gray, and taupe. Turquoise is gorgeous when paired with black. It complements reds, pinks, and oranges beautifully; looks classic with deep blues; livens up greens and it is trendy and youthful with yellow-greens. Please contact **ReDesigns by Brenda** if you would like help selecting the perfect shade of turquoise for your home.



Institute®. "It is believed to be a protective talisman, a color of deep compassion and healing, and a color of faith and truth, inspired by water and sky." Through years of color word-association studies, we also find that Turquoise represents an escape to many - taking them to a tropical paradise that is pleasant and inviting, even if only a fantasy."

You can add a pop of turquoise with accessories like in the photo above taken from my own home. Here, tur-



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