

## Brenda's Bulletin

# ReDesigns

by Brenda

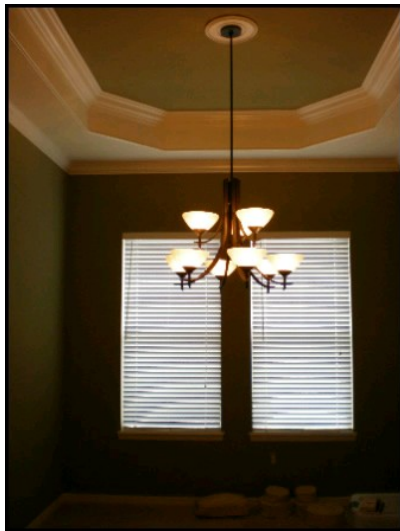
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## Restyling Interiors for Real Living

### Continuing Education for Brenda

Last September Brenda participated in a professional workshop on the topic of color. The two-day class, developed by professionals for professionals, was created and lead by JoAnne Lenart-Weary, nationally-renowned founder of The Decorating and Staging Academy based in Pennsylvania, and Cyndie Stefanik, a 20-year painting veteran and color guru. JoAnne and Cyndie's work has been featured in magazines, HGTV and on a weekly segment on their local ABC affiliate. *Color with No Regrets* is a



patented, numerical system based on the science of the color wheel. Since starting her business in 2008, Brenda has found that color consulting is one of the top needs of her clients. People are intimidated by color but are desperate to have it in their homes. Since color and furniture/accessory placement are the two most important elements of decorating, Brenda knew

instantly that she needed to learn more about color. *The Color with No Regrets* system is an amazing tool and opens up so many color harmony possibilities that you never would have imagined! Brenda is the only certified *Color with No Regrets* specialist in Washington State and she is excited to be able to offer this unique specialization to her clients.

Brenda was so impressed with the



*Color With No Regrets* system and the inventor, JoAnne Lenart-Weary, that she wanted to learn more from this extraordinary lady who is known in the industry as the "Queen of Decorating". Brenda decided to make another investment in her education. In February, Brenda traveled to Tampa, Florida to train with JoAnne and her business partner and talented decorator, Sandra Racz, in an intensive Interior Decorator training. At the end of an exhilarating week of learning, Brenda earned the distinction of becoming a Certified Professional Decorator from the Decorating and Staging Academy. The before and

after photos of the dining room on this page were one of our class projects. See other before and after photos of our class projects in the photo gallery on our web sight. Brenda continues to seek out opportunities for learning and improvement so that she can better serve her clients.

### Decorating Tip:

Have you seen these amazing hooks? Hercules hooks are so easy to use and you don't even need a hammer! Just twist, push, and turn. Use on drywall, plaster, or paneling to hang mirrors, pictures, shelves, and more. They are easy to remove too, leaving only a tiny hole.



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# Mirror Mirror on The Wall

They are found in every home and are essential for practical purposes. Mirrors are functional, but they can also be beautiful works of art and can also help solve decorating challenges. Mirrors come in all shapes, styles and sizes and can be found anywhere from home furnishing stores to department stores to discount stores. They should be selected based on the size and décor of



your room and they are available in various styles ranging from traditional to modern. The art of a mirror is in what it reflects as well as the frame that is around it. Mirrors should not be hung just anywhere, so here are some helpful tips for you to consider before you start drilling holes into your walls.

Mirrors should always reflect something attractive and at all angles, such

as a view outside, interesting architecture, or a lovely tablescape. Use caution when using a mirror above a fireplace, making sure that the mirror is not reflecting something unsightly such as the ceiling, television, or unattractive architecture. Beware of the “floating mirror syndrome”. Mirrors should never appear like they are floating by themselves, seemingly “lost” on the wall. Unless it is a very large mirror that can fill the wall space nicely or a large grouping, it’s important to anchor a mirror with a piece of furniture, such as a table. When choosing a mirror for over a table or a sofa, for example, find one that is approximately 2/3 the width of the table or sofa to ensure proper proportion.

Mirrors are beautiful and functional when used in an entryway over a table and can be used to do a quick check of your appearance as you enter and leave your home. On the photo to the left, this entry mirror reflects greenery outside and soft lamplight.

Hang a large mirror over a buffet table or console table to make an outstanding feature in any room. In a dining room, hang a large mirror at the same height as the chandelier to double the impact of the reflected chandelier light. Again, make sure that your mirror is approximately 2/3 the width of the furniture beneath it.

Mirrors can wake up a tired, boring room. They enhance light, add depth, and create the illusion of space, making a room seem up to twice as large. For these reasons, mirrors are particularly

useful in small rooms, particularly full-length mirrors. For a large room and/or a room with tall ceilings, a larger and/or taller mirror is most appropriate to the scale of the room. (see photo below)



For a more dramatic and unexpected look, mirrors can also be used in groupings. Consider choosing interesting frames in a variety of shapes and sizes. For a cohesive look, you may want to use mirrors with the same or similarly colored frames.

Mirrors are not only practical, but they can be beautiful works of art as well, particularly when you do a little planning and follow these simple guidelines.

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