

Why you should NOT DIY *and hire an interior designer*

Five interior designers give their advice



Melissa Fenigstein

Many people have a little bit of “designer” in them. However, it is important to remember that good taste does not transcend knowledge and design experience.

In today’s world with the plethora of DIY and HGTV shows, the perception of interior design is that of a quick and easy redo. In reality, it takes experience, planning, technical knowledge and deep vendor relationships to achieve the desired result.

Consider the many areas that designers are trained in such as scale and proportion, balance, shape and mass, lighting, texture and color.

Investing money in a professional designer will likely save you thousands of dollars trying to repair costly mistakes that a homeowner may make because of that lack of knowledge.

Designers also manage the very time consuming elements such as installs and coordination of sub-contractors like electricians, painters, etc., on the project.

Your good taste will steer a designer in the right direction, but always remember that designers are trained to see the big picture and create interiors that make a space physically comfortable and aesthetically pleasing. 🏠



Home Again!

with New Age Interiors

Sometimes, we need to be reminded of how lucky we are. We work and rush around all day, often not taking a moment of gratitude on a daily basis. Your life can completely change in just an instant. This Long Island family was harshly reminded of how fast their lives can change when a spark on their outside deck led to a



Lexxi's new home



raging fire that leveled their home. Thankfully, the family and their beloved dog escaped without injury.

And luckily, the homeowners knew immediately who they would call to help design and rebuild their home—Melissa Fenigstein of New Age Interiors Inc., Syosset, New York—and she was the perfect match. With extensive design/build experience, they began the building material selections and the interior design of the family's new home.

The words “welcoming, comforting and serene” were top of the list when asking the homeowners to describe how they wanted their family and guests to feel





in their renewed space. The original home, filled with earth/land tones would be replaced with a bright and cheerful new color scheme. The new floor plan was an open-

concept with vaulted ceilings, new roof lines and some added square footage.

After anxiously awaiting their return to the place they called home for over 20 years, they

were welcomed with cozy, yet upscale furniture, beautiful architectural appointments and the dramatic horse portrait which completes their living room. This family is now back “home.” 🏠

