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46 SHAKE UP YOUR ROUTINE, WHETHER IT'S A ROAD TRIP TO PARIS, TEXAS, OR BETTER STILL, A FLIGHT TO PARIS, FRANCE.

Visit the museum you've always threatened to go to, but never have made time for. Find out what's out there—you might want to bring it home. —RUSS PETERS AND BILL CATES

47 EVERY ROOM SHOULD HAVE LAYERS OF LIGHTING.

This detail provides the ability to change the mood of a room with a few turns of the wrist. I like to keep overhead lighting to a minimum and use low-wattage lightbulbs. (Harsh overhead light creates ugly shadows on people's faces and nobody likes that!) Floor lamps, table lamps, and lighted wall features warm up any room with a cozy, attractive glow. —AMY THOMASSON

48 YOUR HOUSE IS THE BEST WAY TO TELL YOUR STORY. Design each room for the way your family will use it, not how it's expected to be used. Trade your dining table for a pool table. —TRACY HARDENBURG

I SEE LOTS OF ROOMS WHERE EVERY PIECE OF FURNITURE IS UP ON LEGS. SOME PIECES SHOULD EXTEND TO THE FLOOR; THEY ANCHOR FURNITURE ARRANGEMENTS. TOO MANY LEGS AND THE FURNITURE LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT ALL RUN AWAY.

—EMILY SUMMERS

50 DON'T WORRY ABOUT MATCHING YOUR ART TO YOUR FURNISHINGS.

—LISA HENDERSON

51 USE GRAVEL ON YOUR DRIVEWAY. The sound of arriving is relaxing. You feel like you've arrived home.

—PAUL DUESING

52 NOTHING ADDS MORE CHARACTER TO A SPACE THAN BOOKS. When clients ask me what to put in their bookshelves, I always say, "Books!"

—JAN SHOWERS

53 SPEND MONEY ON THE MOST COMFORTABLE AND WELL-BUILT SOFA YOU CAN AFFORD. No matter how phenomenal the fabric, you will never want to spend time in your beautiful space if it is uncomfortable. —DEBRA OWENS

54 INVEST IN PIECES FOR YOUR HOME THAT NO ONE ELSE WILL HAVE.

—CARRIE HATFIELD

55 MIX VASTLY DIFFERENT TEXTURES FOR EXCITING LOOKS,

such as a Mongolian lamb bench next to an antique cast stone planter, coupled with a hand-painted metallic silk fabric with an acrylic coffee table—very unexpected and unique.

—SUZY CHILDRESS

56 ONE OF MY FAVORITE LINES IS BORROWED FROM ALBERT HADLEY:

"Faux marble shouldn't look real; good marbleizing looks like a drunken Italian did it." —TY BURKS

57 DON'T FORGET SMALL WALLS. I love a Lucite bracket with an interesting object highlighted. —CYNTHIA COLLINS

58 MOST PEOPLE ENTER THEIR HOMES THROUGH THE GARAGE. Make that entry area as wonderful as your formal entry, because the most important people—you and your family—will be seeing it each day. —LISA BARRON

THE BEST DESIGNERS IN DALLAS

107 IN 2017

WE TEAMED UP WITH LOCAL SHOWROOMS TO SELECT THE BEST DESIGNERS IN THE BUSINESS.

Kara Adam

Kathy Adcock-Smith

Debbie Bagley

Linda Baker

Marci Barnes

Lisa Barron

Dawn Bergan

Amy Berry

Mil Bodron

Glen Boudreaux

Gonzalo Bueno

William Tyson Burks

David Cadwallader

Bill Cates

Ashley Avrea Cathey

Margaret Chambers

Suzu Childress

Cynthia Collins

Katie Collins

Charlotte Comer

Alice Cottrell

Vicki Crew

Barbara Daseke

Fran DeLeo

Catherine Dolen

Beth Dotolo

Paul Draper

Cameron Drinkwater

Paul Duesing

Stephen Dunn

Laura Lee Clark Falconer

Abbe Fenimore

Samantha Fisher

Mark Fletcher

Linda Fritschy

Kim Furstenwerth

Christina Garcia

Carolina Gentry

Kay Genua

Amy Gibbs

Tracy Hardenburg

Chelsea Hargrave

Carrie Hatfield

Sherry Hayslip

Lisa Henderson

Laura Hunt

Ike Isenhour

Leslie Jenkins

Jan Jones

Jason James Jones

Pam Kelley

Rebecca Kennedy

Cathy Kincaid

Allen Kirsch

Liz Lank

Emily Johnston Larkin

Julie Lloyd

Mauricio Lobeira

Susan Bednar Long

Lolly Lupton

John Phifer Marrs

Jen Mauldin

Kim McCue

Brant McFarlain

James McInroe

Tiffany McKinzie

Robyn Menter

Joseph Minton

Doniphan Moore

Mike Mousel

Rania Nasser

Dan Nelson

Michelle Nussbaumer

Debra Owens

Russ Peters

Betty Lou Phillips

Tracy Rasor

Pat Ratcliff

Joshua Rice

Christopher Ridolfi

Rick Rozas

David Salem

Cristie Schlosser

Ann Schooler

Corbin See

Jan Showers

Mary Anne Smiley

Debra Stewart

Neal Stewart

Julie Stryker

Emily Summers

Martha Sweezey

Amy Thomasson

Clair Tompkins

Richard Trimble

Philip Thomas

Vanderford

Cheryl Van Duyne

Barbara Vessels

Alana Villanueva

Mary Beth Wagner

Shelby Wagner

Deborah Walker

Amy Walton

Barry Williams

Liz Lank Williamson

Rodney Willis

Joanie Wyll

*This list resulted from a survey of more than 350 local showrooms and designers. The list does not necessarily reflect the opinions of *DHome*.



*“Refined, Sophisticated,
Timeless”*

CYNTHIA COLLINS

Designing projects around the country for more than two decades, Cynthia Collins has the unique ability to create spaces that reflect a refined, sophisticated taste and simultaneously highlight a client’s distinctive lifestyle and personality. “I purposefully plan each detail with my client in mind and make choices based upon functionality, meaning, and beauty to achieve a look that is both clean and timeless,” she says. She expertly blends antiques with modern art, custom upholstery, and fine textiles to create contemporary, comfortable living spaces. Collins and her team travel frequently to England and France where they find one-of-a-kind treasures for their clients. Many of their European goods can be found at Collins’ shop, Blue Print, located in a lovely restored 1920s home in Uptown.

COLLINS INTERIORS

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