

Trends: Mismatched Furniture

Matching furniture was once the norm. It still is in many homes because it's familiar and uniform. But it's also boring and fails to reflect a sense of personal style.

If you're the bolder, creative type, mismatched furniture can create a look that best expresses your style.

However, there's a difference between coordinated mismatched furniture and mish-mash furniture. Creating this trendy look requires some thought and deliberation to harmonize different pieces. Here are some tips to help get it right.

LINKING THEME

The key to creating a coherent look with mismatched furniture is finding a common denominator and sticking with it, interior design experts say. Otherwise, you risk having a room full of accent pieces.

Find a theme — a style or a period, form or color palette — and follow through with the rest of your furniture.

Design harmony means that the style, color and scale of furniture should all be somewhat similar. Color is the



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REAL ESTATE 101

Renters Find Impressive Deals in High-Priced Tech Hubs

There's been a lot of talk of a mass exodus from the big, expensive cities. If you're jonesing for more elbow room and likely to be working from home well into the future, why not go elsewhere for a fraction of the price? The result: rental prices are plummeting the most in the highest-priced tech hubs with lots of white-collar workers whose offices have closed due to the pandemic and can suddenly work from anywhere with a reliable internet connection. Check out Realtor.com's list of cities where rents have fallen the most at bit.ly/2YX8Tzn.

simplest way to achieve harmony in your home decor.

REPETITION

If you haven't yet chosen a theme, color is the great unifi-

er in a room. Take your cues from a rug or upholstery and repeat it elsewhere. Even if you're drawn to lots of mismatched styles of furniture, as found in the Bohemian

approach, you can make connections with art or a large rug that plays with the same hues.

Accent or throw pillows of the same color can also pull a room together with furniture

not of the same style. The same effect can be achieved by echoes of color in shades or prints.

PAINT

Calming what can be a visual train wreck of furniture is what paint is all about. The best way to achieve this, according to interior decorators is to start neutral. A clean, crisp white can do wonders for a room with clashing styles.

HARDWARE

One simple way to bring a sense that your mismatched furniture belongs together is to replace the hardware. It doesn't necessarily need to be the same style, but shape and color of a similar type will give the appearance of unity.

TEXTURE AND LIGHTING

If you've used all these tips in creating your ultimate room of eclectic style, the final touch is to add texture and lighting to focus the room.

One expert suggests adding vintage shutters repainted in chalky white and distressing them with a light sandpaper to add texture against neutral white walls.

Finally, using the proper lighting to highlight your unique pieces and room can make all the difference. Chandeliers and glass lamps can add more eclectic appeal.



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HOMEWISE GLOSSARY

Deed of trust: Some states use a deed of trust to convey property being held as security for a loan. SOURCE: MLS.com

AD SPACE