



Styled Spaces *by* Vanessa Stone



Fall 2010 Newsletter

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Professional D.I.Y. (or How I Spent my Summer Vacation)

This summer, I made it a project to re-experience the joys and frustrations of Do It Yourself. What better way to learn how I can best serve my clients!

Like many of you, I 'inherited' the décor of my home's previous owners.

Our spare bedroom is small and narrow. With a new soft, neutral colour (Benjamin Moore OC-44 Misty Air), it now appears bigger and airier.

The living room had a mix of red walls and gold walls, 2 of which had textured wall paper underneath. I stripped the paper (a horrible process but worth it) and painted everything a calming colour (Benjamin Moore OC-47 Ashwood). This unified the space and helped minimize a large corner brick fireplace that is in a poor location.

The kitchen paint colour disconnected this room from the rest of the house (a décor no-no). So I choose Benjamin Moore Gray Wisp CC-670 to compliment the adjoining living room and to create good room flow.

Save \$\$ and time:

**D.I.Y. Helper
Packages**



See [page 2](#) of this newsletter for 2 great introductory offers of professional design advice for your fall Do-It-Yourself projects!

Upstairs, there are 5 different floor coverings in a small 500 sq. ft. area. This is the next decorating faux pas that I'll be correcting. Look for details in the next issue of my newsletter.

So, what is the result of my industrious D.I.Y. summer? Well, in addition to a home that feels comfortable and on its way to looking great, it has lead me to create two D.I.Y. packages for you. Don't miss them on page 2!

Special thanks to...

...Pauline Penner and Anna Harvey.

These two businesswomen have inspired me and provided me with their business wisdom for the past two years.

Pauline is a Small Business Advisor with her own company, Simply Solutions. Anna owns BOOST Communications and specializes in marketing communications for small business.

Thank you both!

Great Finds

This issue, my Great Find is a person. Susan Wakal of Picture Panache brings new life to artwork and photos through framing and matting. This is such an important finishing touch to a newly decorated room! Susan will even come and hang your newly framed art in the right location in the room and at the correct height. You will be so impressed with the dramatic difference this all makes.

Design Tip

TVs and fireplaces often become competing focal points within a living room, creating an unsettling feeling rather than calm.

There's no competing with a fireplace: allow it to be the feature and set up the room around it.

An option for a flat-screen TV is to hang it on the wall above the

fireplace. If you have a traditional TV, tuck it off to one side on a simple, non-descript stand (kept neat and tidy) which will not distract from the main focal point, the fireplace.

The result? A strong balanced room, instead of a room that looks disjointed and cut in two!

Call me if you're having any challenges.

D.I.Y. Helper: Bringing High-end design to D.I.Y.

I'd love to hear from you.

Thanks for reading my newsletter!

If you enjoyed this issue, I'd be happy to send a copy to your friend or colleague.

If you'd prefer not to receive future issues, I respect your wishes.

Have a design question you'd like me to answer?

Contact me:

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In-Home Custom Colour Portfolio

Want to be sure you're choosing the right colour? Ask me about my **in-home, 3-phase selection process** that gives you much more than just a colour and saves you from colour choice overwhelm.

1. I do the *initial in-home visit* to ask questions, take photos, and find inspiration from within your home.
2. Back at my office, I create a *colour portfolio* with 2 optional colour schemes for walls, trim and ceiling plus all the details on brand and sheen.
3. In the *2nd in-home visit*, I present your Custom Colour Portfolio. We view the colours in your space in your lighting to be absolutely certain they work. I can also recommend painters, drywallers, and carpenters if needed.

In-Home Custom Colour Portfolio Consultation

\$99/room

Book by Dec 1, 2010



Expert Advice & Fresh Ideas

So often I hear from people, "I wish I had met you a month ago." Here's your chance to get your D.I.Y. project off to the right start – the absolutely best way to save time and money!

Book a 2-hour *Fresh Ideas* consultation as soon as you find yourself thinking "something's not quite right with this space." You don't need to know why. My years of experience and training can guide you!

Most importantly I listen. I'll ask you the right questions, figure out what's not working for you, suggest changes that would help, and show you how to prioritize the steps within the project.

I'll advise on products, suggest great shopping places, recommend reliable tradespeople, and arm you with all the information and guidance you need to undertake your *D.I.Y. projects with confidence*.

Fresh Ideas & Expert Advice Consultation

\$149/2 hours

Book by Dec 1, 2010