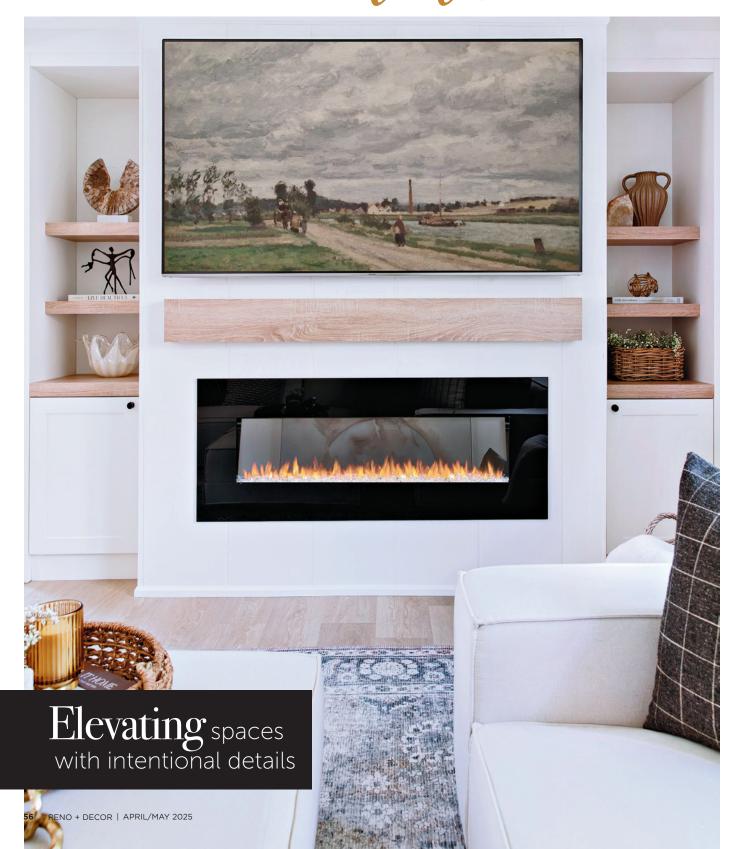
It's the little things that by NATHALIA HARA photos OLIA KIPKALA







whether in colour, lighting, or materials – create a ripple effect, adding depth, functionality and personal character. When it comes to creating a space that feels cohesive and well-designed, it's the little things that count. Here's how small design choices can make a big impact.

The art of colour choice

Colour sets the tone for any room, but it doesn't always need to scream for attention. A designer's secret lies in curating a palette that tells a story and evokes a mood. Instead of overwhelming a space with loud colours, consider softer shades that harmonize. A mustard-yellow pillow, a pale green throw, or an abstract artwork can introduce just the right amount of vibrancy. This refined approach allows a room's design to feel more balanced and thoughtful.



Lighting sets a tone

Lighting is the backbone of good design, and when layered thoughtfully, it brings atmosphere and purpose. Combining different lighting sources, such as a vintage-style floor lamp, a sleek desk light, or soft string lights, creates a layered effect that makes a space feel intimate and welcoming. This approach brightens the room and also sets the tone for every activity, whether you're reading, hosting friends, or simply relaxing.

Savvy furniture placement

The way furniture is arranged within a space can dramatically influence its feel. For example, instead of pushing the sofa flat against the wall, try angling it slightly to create a more inviting conversation area. Pairing it with a slim console or a stylish side table adds visual interest, while maintaining flow. Small changes in the layout can make even the cosiest spaces feel expansive and intentionally designed.

Fabrics, flooring and more

Textures and materials infuse a room with richness and comfort. By thoughtfully combining tactile elements, such as a plush velvet cushion, a woven rug and a sleek marble surface, you can add depth and intrigue. One often overlooked element that has a profound effect on the design of a space, is the flooring. Whether it's warm wood that adds texture and warmth or a cool, contemporary tile, flooring choices play a pivotal role in grounding the entire space. A well-chosen rug or unique flooring option can be the anchor that ties together the room's aesthetic.







Elevate with hardware

It's easy to overlook the impact of hardware, but small updates such as replacing dated cabinet handles or switching out old faucets can completely refresh a space. Sleek matte black pulls in the kitchen or modern gold accents in the bathroom introduce an element of sophistication that feels stylish and purposeful. These tiny adjustments demonstrate how a small detail can significantly elevate a room's overall vibe.

Mirror, mirror on the wall

Mirrors serve a functional and aesthetic purpose. A large round mirror above a console table, for example, enhances the feeling of space and also reflects light, making a room feel brighter. Placed strategically to expand the visual perception of the room or used to capture and amplify natural light, a mirror adds a level of sophistication and versatility.

Prioritize comfort and function

While design trends come and go, comfort and function are the timeless foundations of any great space. A well-designed room isn't just about looks; it must be a place

where you feel truly at home. For instance, a cosy reading nook with a plush armchair and a soft throw blanket becomes a retreat where you can unwind. The addition of a small side table for your book, a cup of tea, or a reading lamp ensures this corner is inviting and practical.

In a living room or bedroom, opt for durable yet soft upholstery that's easy to maintain, ensuring beauty and functionality. Add small, smart touches such as a storage ottoman that doubles as extra seating or a side table that serves as a charging station. These choices enhance your home's livability, effortlessly blending convenience and style.

Small decisions, big impact

Interior design is often about the micro-decisions – the subtle changes that over time, create a sense of harmony and intention. The right floor covering, the careful placement of furniture, the layering of textures – great design doesn't always require major investments or dramatic transformations. It's about finding the balance between beauty and utility, crafting a space that feels as good as it looks.

Ultimately, it's these small, purposeful design choices that leave lasting impressions. Even the smallest detail can transform a space into something extraordinary.



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