

# DESIGN MADE EASY

By Tracee M. Bomberger

Are you dreaming of a coastal inspired living room? A Moroccan bedroom? A sleek, contemporary kitchen? Transforming your home or office into the vision you've dreamed of may feel like a daunting task. I often wonder how many people set out on a road trip without a GPS these days? Likewise, flying by the seat of your pants when decorating or renovating is a recipe for disaster – a costly and not so pretty disaster. The key to great design is easy – follow these steps!

1. **Define your dream** - In the design world, it's called 'programming' and we spend a significant amount of time on this step for each project to ensure that your dream is transformed perfectly. Collecting pictures of rooms, furniture, fabrics, and colors that you like is a quick and easy way to help determine the design goal, as pictures often speak louder than words. Once you've narrowed down the look of the space, it's time to take an in depth look at the function. Who's going to use the space? What technology needs are there? Are there children and pets? What's the primary use of the space? These questions, and many others, will allow you to put a functional and beautiful plan in place. This is also a great time to determine your budget.
2. **Plan** – This step is the “meat” of the design for your new room. You will take all of your information from the programming stage and assemble a plan. This includes a detailed floor plan – especially if this is a renovation – that will allow you to lay the room out on paper and to develop any special features you may be looking for. Once complete, you'll know exactly what pieces you'll be shopping for. This detailed plan, along with your budget will guide your shopping phase of the design process.
3. **Shop** - This is where a design professional would make recommendations for all items and often put together a design board to present to you, using your budget (large or small) as a guide. This is a great tool as it allows the vision to be clearly communicated and helps to keep you on track with design & shopping decisions. As the pieces of your design puzzle are being assembled, you will begin to see your vision come to life!

When planning your upcoming renovating & decorating projects, a qualified interior designer is a valuable asset to keep you on track with style & budget! Not only do we have the creativity to make the most of your project, but we also have experience and product knowledge. The success of your project is a direct result of the work put into the planning process. Having completed kitchen & bath renovations with budgets ranging from under \$10,000 to over \$150,000, the planning process remains the same. Contact a designer to help you stay on track and ultimately save you time & money in your project.

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Tracee Murphy Bomberger, one of Southwest Florida's most prominent interior designers, provides services to luxury homeowners throughout the Sarasota area. To have Tracee help you with your design project - or hear about Trade Mark Interiors full range of services – contact her at 941-228-6574, or visit her website at [www.TradeMarkInteriorDesign.com](http://www.TradeMarkInteriorDesign.com)