

 **NOIR & NEUTRALS PRESENTS**

Design Guide

How to Design Your Space by Yourself
Start to Finish

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De-clutter

As a first step, I like to remove everything from the space and separate them into three categories. This will allow you to have fresh eyes and a new perspective on your space. Placeholders don't allow us to see what could be.

*As we destroy, we build not only our spaces
but our lives.*

Overview



Category #1

These items don't bring joy, you forgot you owned it, or represent your past. They need to go.



Category #2

This is your 50/50 category. This category makes the first cut.



Category #3

Items here are ones you absolutely love. We keep them and move them back in.

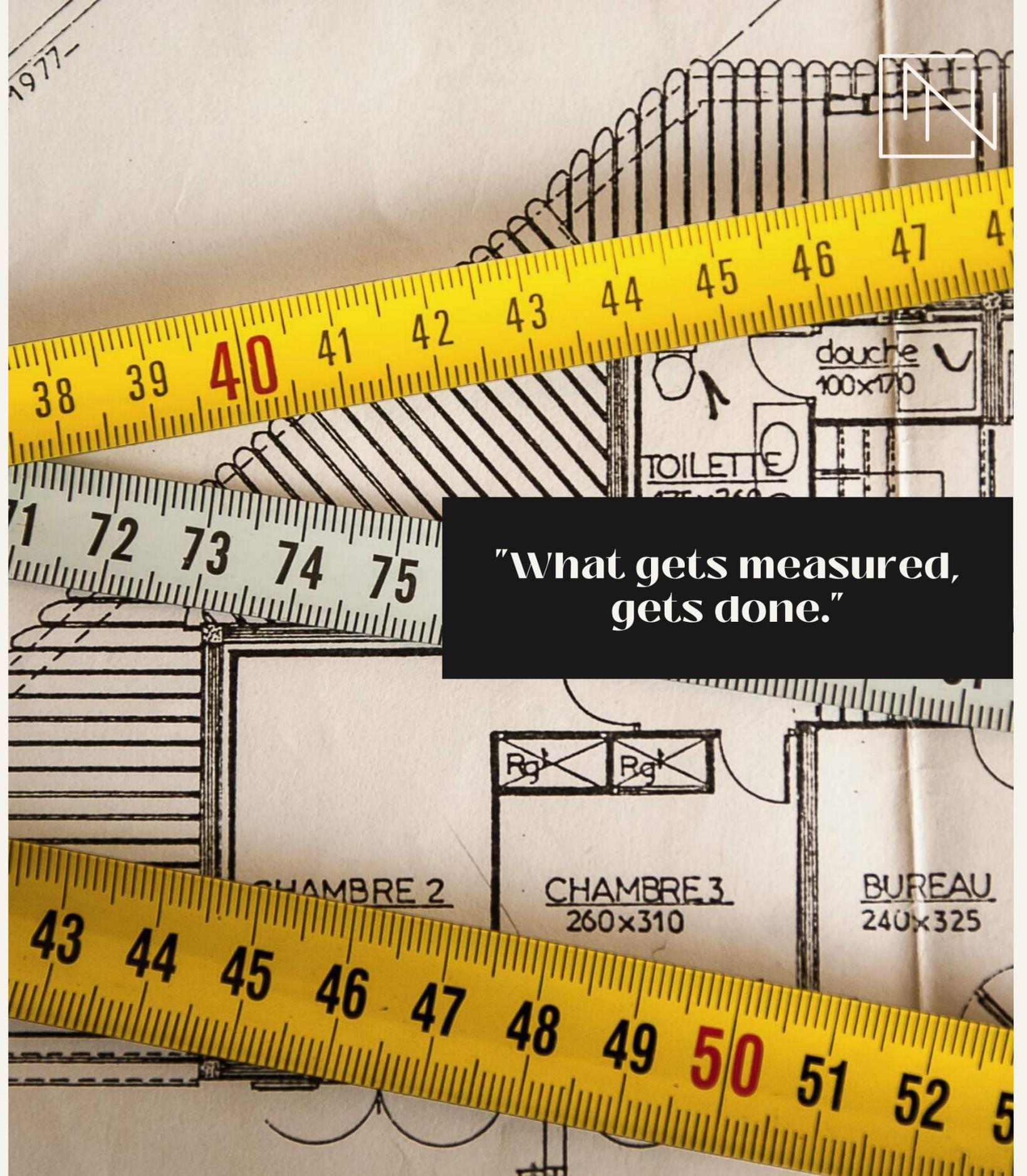


**SAYING
GOODBYE IS
TOUGH.
SAYING
HELLO IS
REFRESHING.**

Overview

Measure

Once we have the space empty, we'll begin to measure and re-measure to ensure we know exactly how much space we're working with. Your imagination may run wild with all of the possibilities.



**"What gets measured,
gets done."**



**When a place has flow,
the space possesses
intention and therefore
will be as balanced as well
as our picture frames.**

Floor Plan

After measurement, apply a grid of 9 squares over the empty space to physically see your vision and place furnishing with a focus on balance and flow of space.

Don't know how to create a floor plan? Contact me or visit the blog [here](#)

Overview



Style

Instead of one, take two or three style and blend them together for a unique look. Remember to add your personality to your space!

Mid-Century

Defined by clean lines, organic forms, minimal ornamentation, and high functionality, the style has an undeniably timeless appeal.

Bohemian (Boho/Scandinavian)

Defined by a lack of structure, opting instead for carefree layers of pattern, texture, and color. The core of the bohemian aesthetic is that it's personal and relaxed. Boho styles are not styled for any other person's enjoyment but your own.

Modern

Defined by a heritage of clean lines, geometric form, clear spaces, function and storage. Modern style furnishings and decor celebrate natural materials, neutral or earthy colors, and the elimination of unnecessary detailing.

Overview

Primary

This will be the main color on the wall. There's an option for peel & stick wall paper for an accent wall.



Secondary

This will be the the most abundant color to compliment the primary and the surroundings of the space.



Accents

These colors will bring the harmony and add that "wow" factor with pop-ups around the space



Colors (example)

The goal here is to give ourselves the best options to choose from. Give 3-4 options for each category. Choose your top 2 from each line until the desired look is achieved.

Overview



Materials (example)

Natural Weave

Paying homage to the Boho style, look to add additional storage by way of baskets made of wicker and rugs with a natural pattern or a pattern that stands out.

Metal/Steel/Glass

Paying tribute to the modern, Boho, and mid century style, metals will keep a clean look and pairs well with natural textures. They are also long lasting. Keep an eye out for a potential of glass tables with metal or steel surroundings.

Wood

The accent material in this example will see itself in wood. Think a tabletop, a side table, a lamp, a clock, a mirror, and especially on the floor.

Select

Lighting

When it comes to lighting, we need to determine the goal of light, how many lights are needed, the limitations, and the opportunities.

Quantity

How many lights are needed to achieve the desired look?

Placement

Which direction do we need the light to bounce? Are we looking for dramatic lighting, warm lighting, indirect lighting, or natural light?

Design

The lighting selection will greatly lean on mid century and boho style decor.



Select

Furniture

A good piece of furniture can truly change the feel of a home or space. That said, not all furniture are created equal and it's imperative that we not conflate aesthetics with function. Good design is beautiful and functional.



Sustainability

First, we will keep as much furniture as possible. When the time comes for the purchase of a new item, we will do so with choosing sustainable materials and from companies who support the betterment of the planet.

Function

Multi-faceted furniture will not only look beautiful but will cater to your body. For example, your spine need be supported, hips sitting underneath the shoulders and at a 90 degree angle, shoulders back and not sunken into the seat, and feet flat on the ground in regards to upright seats.

Design

When you get up from the couch, you want to mimic a squat. This will not only transfer over into real life situations, it'll also wake up the glutes after being inactive from sitting. Searching for the right design is imperative here. We want to get a proportional fit for your space.

Select

Family Section

In our consultation, you wanted to focus on family. Putting plants in a certain section of your home that are columnar (grow upward), do not have sharp leaves, and do well indoors, will ensure your family life goes to the next level.

Flow of Energy

Some plants are excellent for bringing in good energy. In conjunction with the boho style, plants also provide a layering of energy to your space.

The Appeal

We will bring a variety of plants into your space. The plants will be in planters that fit all three styles, coordinate with your values, and be easy to care for.

Plants

Create more peace, bring in your true desires, and enhance the oxygen in your space with plants.



Select

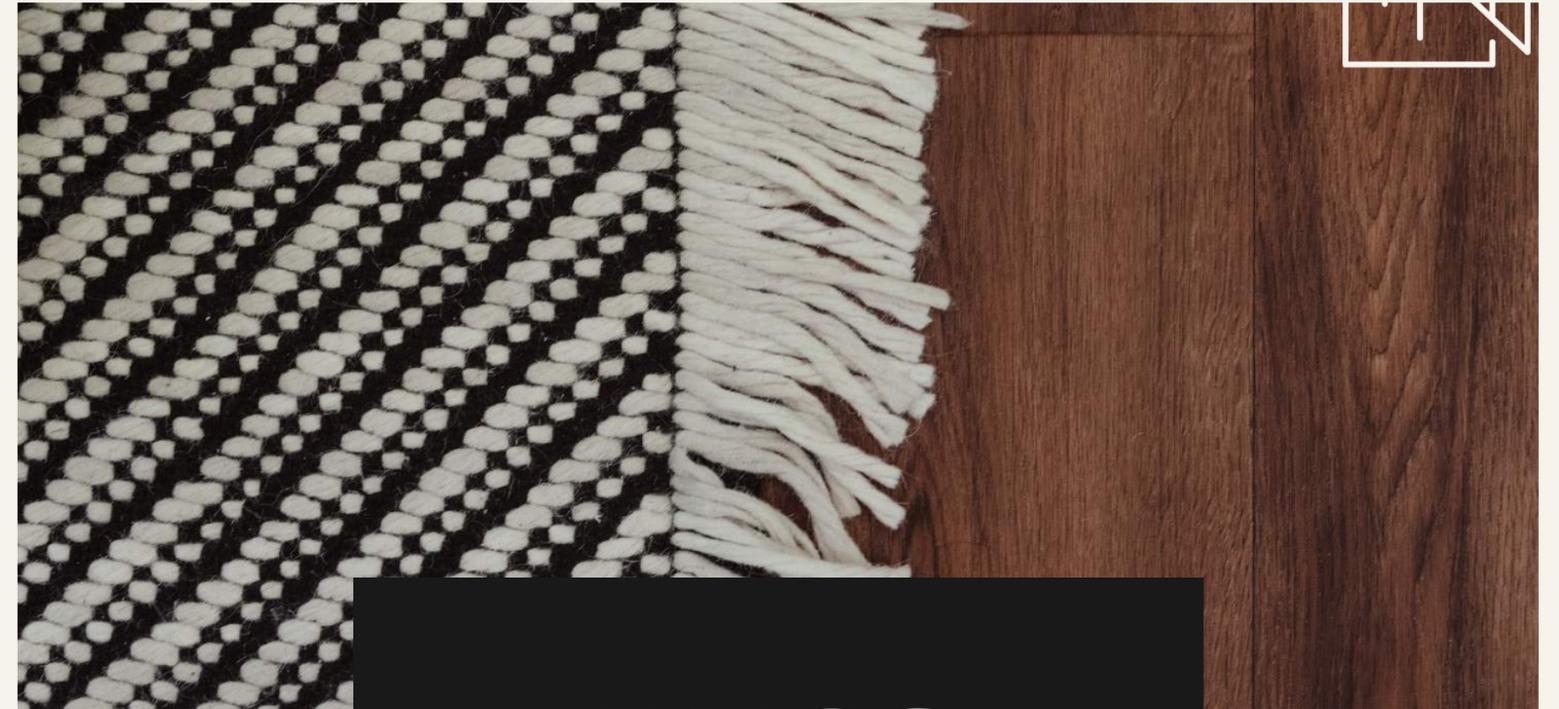
Toxins!

When looking to reduce the footprint of your humble abode, look first under your feet! The same rugs that are bad for the environment can be dangerous to be around—luckily, there are plenty of natural alternatives.

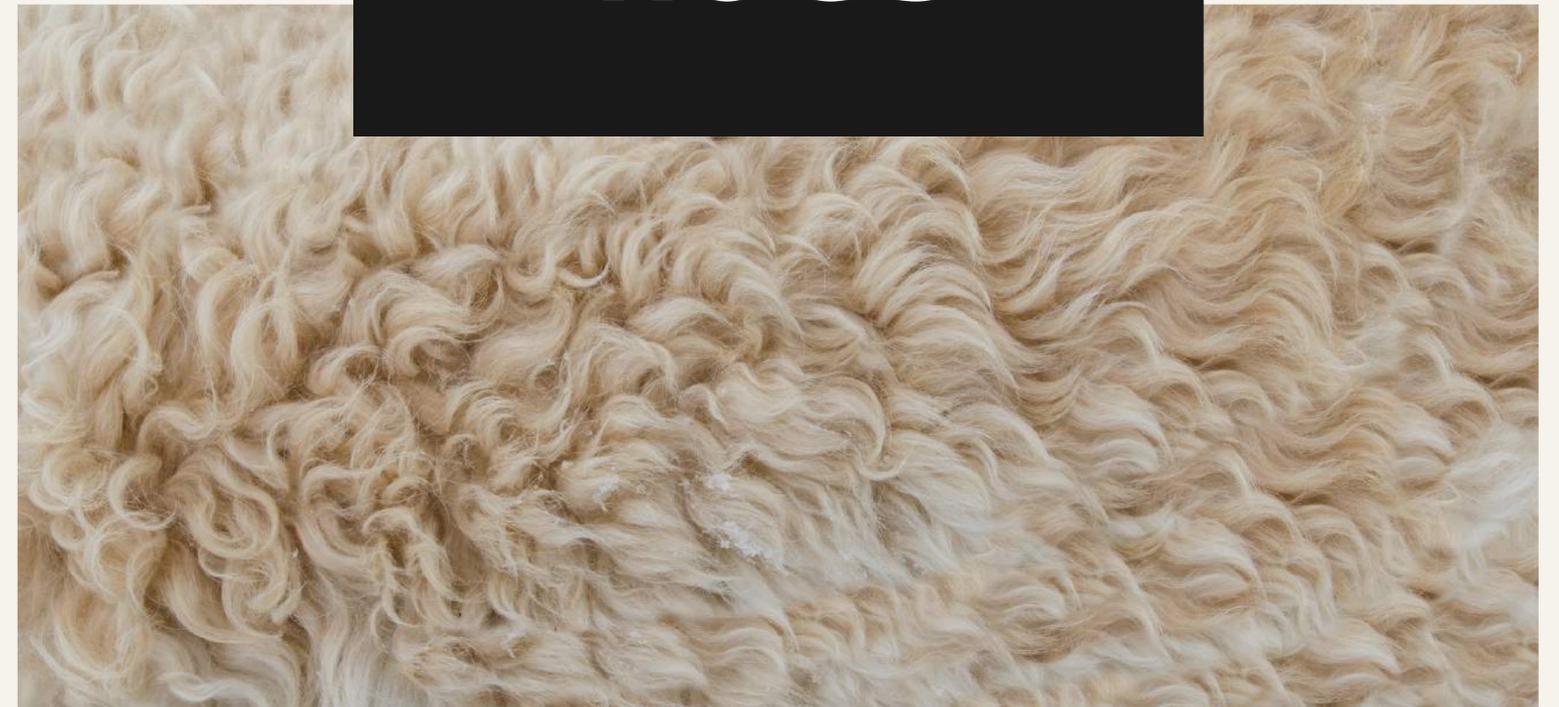
What To Look For

When shopping for nontoxic rugs, look for natural fibers like wool, jute, sisal, and organic cotton. Paying close attention to the backing and the underlay pads which are often cheaply produced with toxic materials. Natural latex, jute, and wool are great alternatives.

Even when safe materials are used, they're often treated in harsh chemicals to repel water and stains. Toxic dyes, glues, and flame retardants are commonly used and very dangerous. It's a long list.



RUGS





Choosing Artwork

- Purchase art that speaks to your inner self.
- Purchase art that compliments your current self.
- Purchase art that speaks life into who you want to become.
- Purchase art that celebrates self.
- Purchase art in twos or threes.
- Purchase art from lesser known artists who has a story that resonates with you.
- Place art in an appropriate space.

Bare walls or art propped up on the floor speaks volumes. Empty walls or unfinished walls can signal guilt, shame, or a level of stuck-ness. Art transforms us from the inside out by showing us subtle messages, invoking feelings of joy, or procuring negative feelings.

Living and entertainment rooms are more general and are more appropriate for images such as family photos. Offices and home offices need to contain art that sparks motivation and inspiration. When choosing art, there should always be thought about the language the walls will speak once they're hung up.

Select

Statement Piece

This part is the best part of the entire process! Personality shines here. Creativity shines here. There are no rules to this. Every space we create together will include one statement piece.

A statement piece is one item that catches your attention. The piece that is abstract and not the typical. Think of a live-edge tabletop, a wicker overhead light cover, a geometrical side table, or anything of that nature. It can be as small or as large as you want.

Shop for one statement piece that brings inspiration into your space and speaks to who you are at your core. Stand out!



Select



**We are Our
Surroundings**

Final Select & Purchase

This is where things get precise. Make a vision board document with all of the items you've selected for you to visually see what your space may look like or contact me for a digital build of your design.

At this time, you will have had seen all of your options and once you decide on the final selection, it's time to purchase the items and wait for the installation.



Finishing Touches

Installation

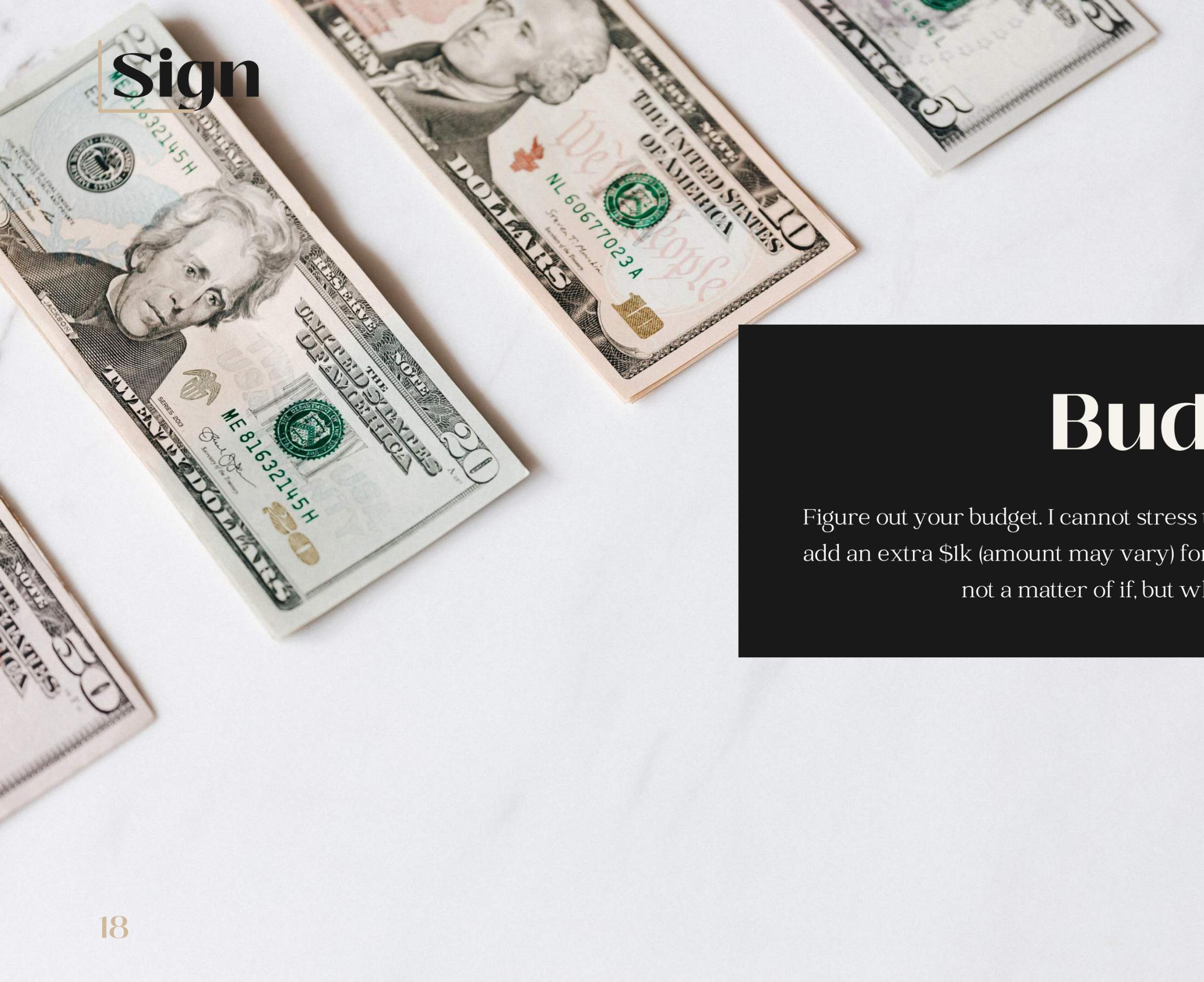
The day has arrived! Typically, there are multiple delivery days so the installation can take place all at once or as the pieces get delivered. Pro tip: if you have everything planned out and have the extra cash, purchase the installation service with it.

Sign off

The absolute final step. You, the client, has to sign off on the quality, execution, and approve of the final design.

Continuation (if applicable)

When you love your revamped space, other spaces may not match or you may desire an upgrade in another area. This is where we can talk about adding on another space and take a peek at the scope and scale of that project.



Sign

Budget

Figure out your budget. I cannot stress this enough. Find your budget and then add an extra \$1k (amount may vary) for changes. When it comes to design, it's not a matter of if, but when the design changes.

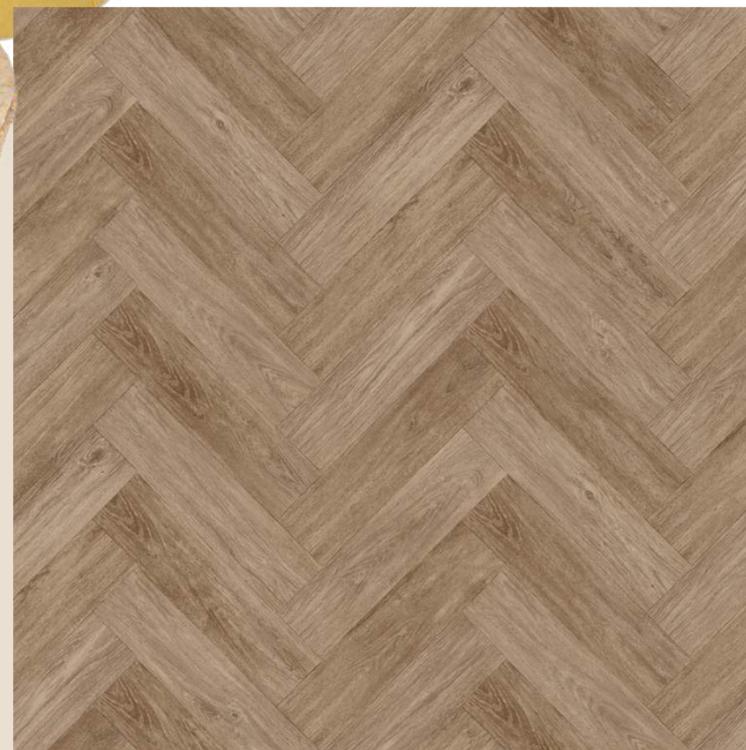
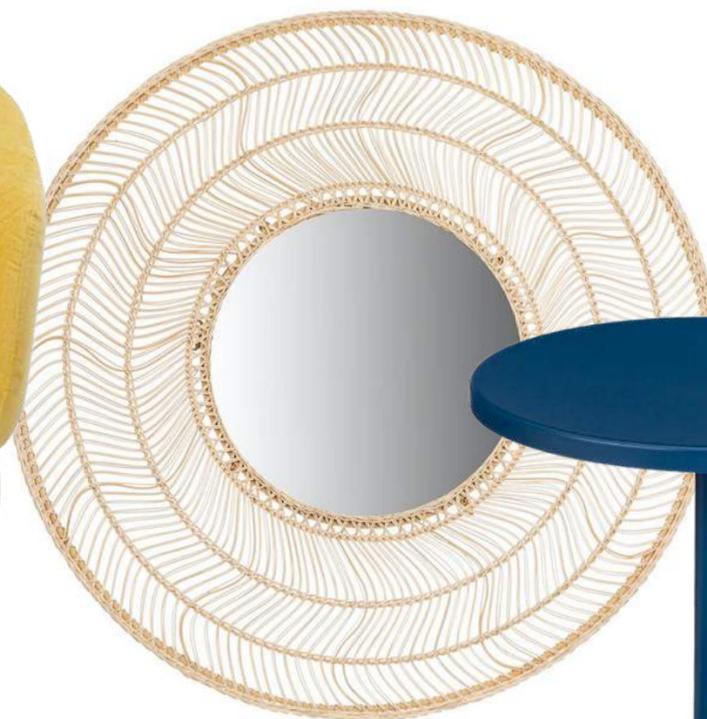


Congratulations!

Through your chosen styles, colors, and materials, you'll blend them to deliver a bespoke design tailored specifically for you. The next step is an example of a vision board. Remember to love your new space and share it with everyone!

Be sure to tag me on social @noirandneutrals

Sign





About Me & Contact!



A Seattle native and creative, I'm an interior design & architecture student aiming to bring my passion for beautiful spaces with a focus on mental & physical health, ergonomics, sustainability, and functionality to all spaces I create. Design is everywhere! From a young age, I understood I had a calling, and I'm blessed to have found success in my vocation.



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