



“The Inspired Home”

Organize, Redesign, and Stage Your HOME, with Style

Happy New Year and WELCOME to the first edition of Ezine “The Inspired Home”!

Quarterly you will find: news, tips, and trends for YOUR HOME. Your local professionals- Della, Stephanie, and Teri- are a phone call or email away to help you with your home’s décor aspirations.

If you found this newsletter valuable, please forward it to your friends and colleagues. You’ll be helping their homes too.

News

1-Day Home courses to begin January 31st at 9am and conclude April 4th at 9am; Saturdays offer 7 different intensive, 4-hour classes

Look for us at the upcoming Spring Medicine Hat Home Expo & Leisure Show beginning March 6th,2009

Get a jump on spring by visiting Calgary Home & Garden Show, February 26th thru March 1st at the Round-up Centre, Stampede Park

Tips

Need help getting motivated? Visit www.realsimple.com/motivate for a plan of 10 steps to reach your goal or goals for 2009 Remember when you put it in writing your chances of success increase dramatically!

Want to rise to a challenge? Try ridding your home of 7 things per day; one year later you will have streamlined your space by 2555 items! Just imagine the serenity and calm you have reclaimed. Pablo Picasso said, "Action is the foundational key to success"

Need to stretch your budget? Try: packing lunches, raising insurance deductible, plan menus and freeze extra meals, buy generic products (example washing up liquid), ask for discounts for cash, group your errands (carpooling), use instructional schools for haircuts or massages, go vintage (welcome hand-me-downs if needed), or shop on-line for web discounts.

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This Newsletter Is Provided By Your Local Organizing and Home Staging Professionals
www.Sortitfullstop.ca www.newclearaction.com www.Staged-To-Sell.ca
Please contact us to receive this newsletter to your email box.

Trends

Let's begin with Real Estate. The market is expected to continue correcting itself over 2009. If you want YOUR asking price as a seller then give the buyer no excuses for 10+% price reductions. If you want YOUR dream house as the buyer then be prepared to pay true market value. Entering a multiple offer situation is NOT worth the risk of forgoing a valuable home inspection.

Pink isn't just for girly girls. Feminine prints for upholstery, accessories or drapery are fresh for transitioning into spring/summer. Think about how the redesign process can invigorate your home for seasonal living. Visit www.hgtv.com and particularly look for "Sarah's House" - main floor living room. Also 'House & Home' Magazine or on-line at www.houseandhome.com for major decor trends 2009

Another important trend to continue is environmental awareness. As a consumer you can expect a wider selection of 'green' products for your home's maintenance, renovation, and décor dilemmas. Think paint colours/choices also. While at Calgary Home & Garden Show look for speciality focus "Green Way of Living". Visit website www.thehealthiesthome.com for more eco ideas/products/suggestions.

And last but not least, be true to your emotions when selecting paint colours. If dealing with a small space (open plan like a 'soft loft') stick to the maximum rule of a three colour palette. While dealing with rooms that open onto each other then play with tints/tones/ shades of that primary colour. Consider the function of the room also, for example a comforting living room provides security and safety which translates to deep, rich hues like caramel or milk chocolate. For the complete article (and archives) see www.erenovate.com/articles/interior-design - a great monthly e-zine resource! Also keep your eye on blue - this year's 'it' colour scheme, and very complementary with white, cream, yellow, green, brown and grey. Get more trend and colour information at www.style.com

Book Reviews

Organizing from the Inside Out by Julie Morgenstern

*although Morgenstern published this book way back in 1998, the tools and system she sets out for becoming and maintaining an organized space are just as useful today as they were 11 years ago. She was a professional organizer before we knew what professional organizers were!

Room Rescue by Jane Burdon

*a variety of simple solutions to small, awkward spaces. How to enhance the best features of a room and minimize the unsightly; creating classic, timeless spaces.

The Home Office Planner by Mitchell Beazley

*what a find! This indispensable book is so much more than a book. The space planning grid and removable furniture and accessories, are a must for space planning. Set up to help you pick your style, mix and match different styles, tastes and textures, it has all the elements for effective home office space and style planning.

House Beautiful Storage Workshop by Tessa Eveleigh

*a truly beautiful book. A wonderful cup of tea, and a quiet corner required. Worth spending at least an hour's time, lingering over the beauty of the pages, the unique storage ideas and the splendid décor.

Websites Of Interest

www.MakeTodayMatter.net
www.funkyfurnitureandstuff.com
www.HGTV.com
www.TLC.com
www.realliferealsimple.com

Canadian Designers and Organizers of interest:

Star of HGTV's Neat Hellen Buttigieg, Professional Organizer and Lifestyles Coach

Star of Sarah's House, Sarah's Cottage and Design Inc. Sarah Richardson, Designer

Star of Wnetworks Divine Design Candice Olson