

A photograph of a modern, cozy living room. On the left, a stone fireplace has a fire burning. In front of it is a wooden chair with a white fur throw. To the right is a light-colored sofa with several pillows and a fur throw. In front of the sofa is a dark wood coffee table with a glass top, holding a bowl of candles and a tray with books and a candle. The room is decorated with plants and a patterned rug.

THE DIY MOMMY

10 HOME DECOR RULES

That Will Change Your Life

THE DIY MOMMY

WELCOME!

Hi! I'm Christina, a DIY & decor expert at thediymommy.com who's designed and executed dozens of room makeovers since 2009. I LOVE helping folks create homes that bring them joy... on a budget!

Over the past 14 years in the home renovation and home decor industry, I have learned SO much about decorating and interior design. I WISH I knew what I know now when we purchased our first little home!

In this e-book, I'm sharing with you my top 10 favourite "Home Decor Rules" that will help you decorate a beautiful home that feels inviting, looks cohesive, and that will bring you joy.

Wishing you a joyful home, Christina



01

SCALE

Use properly scaled
furniture & accessories



SCALE

When shopping for furniture like sofas and coffee tables, and accessories like lamps and greenery, it's important to think of scale. If your pieces are either too large or too small in relation to the size of your room, it can make your space feel off.

Choose an oversized sofa or sectional if you have a large room, and pick a smaller loveseat or apartment-sized sofa if your room is smaller. Also, when choosing pieces that will be displayed together, ensure they're a similar visual weight to achieve a balanced look. For example, a large piece of art or a large mirror will look much better over a large console table than a smaller piece.

02 **BALANCE**

Strive to achieve balance



BALANCE

Whether you like a symmetrical look (mirroring your design from one side to the other), or an asymmetrical look (no mirroring), try to make your decor feel balanced by using visual weight. Achieving balance will make your room feel high-end, and peaceful. Alternatively, if you want a more exciting, energizing space you can forget about balance and create some tension without it!

An example of symmetrical balance is placing a mirror in the middle of a mantel, and then the same candlesticks and plants on either side of the mirror. An example of asymmetrical balance is having a large piece of art to one side of the center of a mantel, then balancing it with a smaller piece of art. Combine a variety of objects on either side of the mantel, but have several smaller pieces on one side balancing the weight of one or two larger pieces on the other side.

03 **REPETITION**

Use repetition to bring
order to your space



REPETITION

When you want your home to feel cohesive, repeating an element will do just that! Having a similar element throughout your home brings order to your space, and makes it feel well designed.

For example, adding gold coloured accessories in every room is a simple way to add repetition to your space. I find that repeating an element 3 times in each room works well, so you could have gold candlesticks, a gold-framed mirror and gold picture frames in one room to create the repeating element.

COLOUR

Create a distinct colour
palette for your space

COLOUR

Even if you want to use a variety of colours in your space, creating and sticking to a distinct colour palette will help make your room feel well designed. I like to look to the colour wheel when I'm planning out palettes for a space (find my free colour wheel printable [here!](#)). There are 3 main colour schemes you can choose from: monochromatic, analogous, or complementary. You can pair any of these schemes with a neutral colour (or colours!) like white, black, brown, grey, or metallic colours. A monochromatic scheme is various shades of one colour. For example, white, light blue and dark blue. This creates a fresh, minimalistic feeling. An analogous colour scheme is two colours beside each other on the colour wheel. For example, blue & green. This creates a calming effect with a little bit of interest. A complementary scheme is two colours opposite each other on the colour wheel. For example, yellow and lavender purple. This creates a more energetic, interesting feeling.



MONOCHROMATIC



ANALOGOUS



COMPLEMENTARY

05 **TEXTURE**

Use an abundance of
textures in your space



TEXTURE

A variety of textures in your textiles, furniture and decor accents will bring lots of interest and coziness into your space. This is an especially important rule if you have a space that uses mostly neutral colours. Adding textures will help your room feel less sterile and more inviting! I love to incorporate textures like faux fur, shiny metal, woven seagrass, worn woods, and soft velvets into my spaces.

Creating a mood board with the help of a site like Pinterest, and with a free online design program called Canva can help you see all your design elements together. You can then decide if there is enough varieties of texture in your elements, or if you need to add more.

INTRODUCING...



HAVING A HARD TIME PLANNING YOUR ROOM MAKEOVER? DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

You're not alone! A lot of people feel this way, which is why I created my Canva Mood Board Templates & Mini Course.

These easy-to-use Canva mood board templates and accompanying mini course will have you designing gorgeous mood boards to launch your room makeover in no time... even if you have no design experience!

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- ✓ 11 VIDEO TRAINING LESSONS ALL ABOUT CREATING YOUR MOOD BOARDS
- ✓ 30 PAGE GUIDEBOOK TO GUIDE YOU ALONG THE WAY
- ✓ 5 CANVA MOOD BOARD TEMPLATES YOU CAN CUSTOMIZE OVER & OVER AGAIN
- ✓ BONUS MOOD BOARD EXAMPLES THAT YOU CAN COPY & CUSTOMIZE

GET YOURS NOW AT
[THEDIY MOMMY ACADEMY.COM](https://thediymommyacademy.com)

06 FOCAL POINT

Establish a clear focal
point in your space



FOCAL POINT

When you walk into your space, where does your eye go? It's important to establish one obvious focal point in your space to design everything else around. If you try to have 2 or more dominating elements in your room, it can feel overwhelming and the eye doesn't know where to look first.

Some focal points are obvious and unchangeable like a dominating fireplace, but you may have to create some in your space like a large piece of art or a colourful appliance. Choose other furniture and accessories in your room that complement the focal point, but don't overpower it.

07 FLOOR PLAN

Lay out the space first for
the best results



FLOOR PLAN

I've realized time and time again how important it is to draw out the floor plan of my space before I decorate it. Even if I think I know the dimensions of my room, it's difficult to find the right sized furniture and accessories for my space if I haven't laid them out carefully first! Creating a floor plan for your space will also help you see how you might be able to rearrange things to create better pathways or conversation areas.

I recommend using [floorplanner.com](https://www.floorplanner.com) for an easy, free program to create a floor plan and play with elements. If you want a more advanced program, you can try [Sketchup.com](https://www.sketchup.com), but it does have a big learning curve. Playing with a floor plan in advance can help you nail down the focal point, entry point, logical pathways, good lighting, and appropriate seating for your room.

08

SOURCING

Source from a variety of
places for your space



SOURCING

Do you want your home to look like you plopped the show room of a big box furniture store inside of it? I sure don't! Sourcing your furniture, accessories and artwork from a variety of places will keep your home looking unique, collected, and unlike a big box store. Of course I love to DIY artwork and accessories to keep my home budget friendly and unique, but you can also look to thrift stores, antique stores, or your favourite retail stores.

Resist the urge to buy an entire set of furniture from one place - mix and match chairs, tables and soft furnishings to make your home look more inviting. If you are making a mood board for your space before you start installing everything, you can pre-source your items, drag them into your mood board, and see how they all look together before committing. This helps me so much!

09 DETAILS

The little details can
make a BIG difference



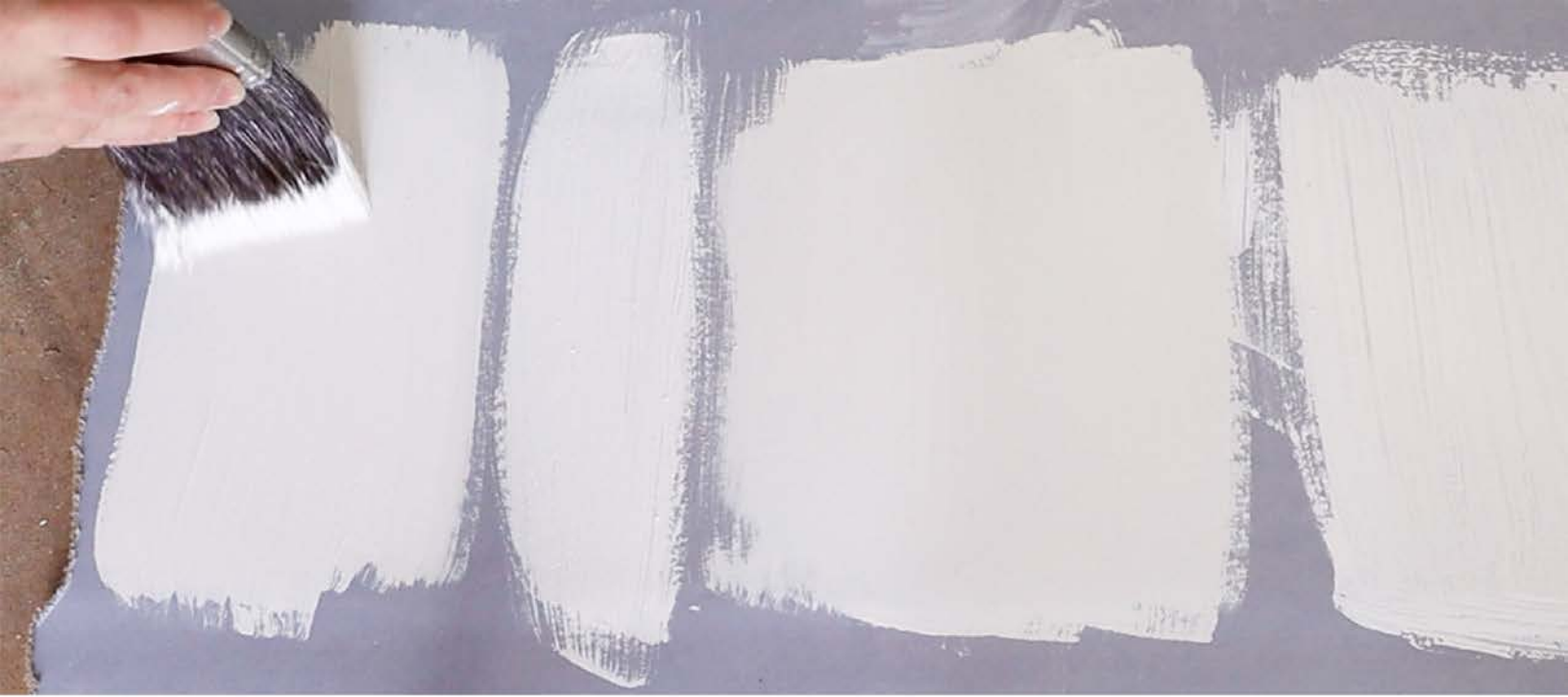
DETAILS

Don't overlook the smaller, more detailed elements when it comes to decorating your home. The little knobs on your cabinets, the knobs on your doors, the hooks on your wall and the accessories you choose can make a bigger impact than you think.

Choose finishes that tie in well to your overall colour scheme, and don't forget to repeat finishes throughout your home like I mentioned in Rule #3!

10 PAINT

Paint needs to be
sampled in your space



PAINT

I'm a huge paint fanatic. It's my absolute favourite way to make a big impact in a room on a budget. One gallon of paint can create a dramatic feature wall that will completely change the feeling of your space!

It's critical that you sample the paint colour you want to try on your actual wall in a large swatch before committing. I've made the mistake in the past of not doing this, and your swatch will always look different on your wall than in the paint store. If you don't want to paint on your wall directly, use a 2-3 foot square of cardstock or scrap drywall, paint it with a sample of the paint you want, lean it on the wall in the room you want to paint, and analyze it. You'll want to see how it looks in daylight, dusk, and with the interior lights on. You might be surprised how differently it looks in your space!

FINAL THOUGHTS

Incorporating these 10 home decorating rules into my room makeover process has truly helped me design rooms that make sense and look great. I hope you find these helpful, too!

Check out my new Canva Mood Board Templates & Mini Course by visiting TheDIYMommyAcademy.com. These will help you get started creating the room of your dreams on a budget!



NEXT STEPS

- Get my new Canva Mood Board & Templates & Mini Course to design mood boards to keep your room makeover on track
- Visit TheDIYMommy.com for more free room makeover inspiration and advice
- Book a virtual one-on-one room makeover consultation with me at TheDIYMommyAcademy.com