



March – trends for 2009!

By Ellinor Ellefson

Interior Designer, Allied Member ASID, Elle Interiors

Where do trends come from, and who creates them? The answer is complex, some trends are born on their own, some, the result of marketing. Most trends have a natural place in the society, meaning, they are here for a reason. The recession affects not only our house prices, and job availability, but affects also how we look at things, what we want to surround ourselves with - colors, textures, and much more. A few months into 2009, let us look at what this year will bring into our homes:

Colors

Indigos, deep plums and purples will mix with whites, off whites and browns. Purple and plum will be seen everywhere (these colors are already all over Target, a good indicator for when a trend has reached a big audience), from paint to accessories, fabrics and more. Yellow is another rising color in many variations, especially “curry” tones and gold. Earthy neutrals will stay popular, such as mushroom-colors, taupes, beiges, and grays.



Style

Eclectic style is what we will see more of in 2009. The look many people are going for is a relaxed, personal style. Inspired by the natural food movement, a “natural” style is becoming

popular. We will also see a lot of ethnic prints, sometimes made more modern, and in large graphic patterns. Paisley patterns will become popular again, as well as patterns such as Greek keys, camphor leaves, medallions, ironwork patterns, and scallops. We will see these patterns in fabrics, tableware, and accessories. Ikat is another popular motif in everything from pillows to bedding.



Finishes

Stainless steel will still be popular, but bronze is another finish that we will see a lot of this year, especially in accessories, lamps etc. For glass, textures that are reminiscent of water or ice are becoming more common. There is a shift away from plain, smooth glass toward glass with facets, scoring, and hand carvings.



Smaller furniture

For quite a few years, huge furniture has been the craze here in Arizona. However, in 2009, maybe because of the recession, furniture pieces are going back to a more traditional and smaller scale.

Lighter wood stains

As much as we have come to love our dark wood furniture, lighter stains are on the rise, as well as distressed finishes. The dark stains will still be here for a while, but lighter stains are becoming more and more common, especially gray tones.



Textured fabrics

The fabrics that we will be drawn to will have lots of texture and contrasts. Woven blends and chenilles will be popular, as well as fabrics with a lot of contrasts, such as matte with luster or fabrics with raised patterns. We will also start using outdoor fabrics, such as Sunbrella, inside our homes. The quality of these has increased a lot in the last years, and families start to see how useful they can be on interior furniture as well.

Living responsibly

Green, sustainable and fair trade in products for the home. The green design trend will persist, and will grow to become a commonplace and basic feature of furniture and how we live.



If you need help with new ideas for your home, call or email me at 602-751-1178, ellinor@elleinteriorsaz.com. I am also here for all your interior design, decorating, and remodeling questions and needs!

Have fun – and remember that the money you put into your home is money that you get to enjoy every day!

Ellinor Ellefson

Interior Designer, Allied Member ASID

Elle Interiors

www.elleinteriorsaz.com

*Ellinor Ellefson, Allied member ASID, of Elle Interiors, specializes in residential interior design and small commercial spaces. She believes that great spaces are for everyone, and that you don't have to sacrifice style and good looks in order to stick to a budget. Ellinor Ellefson offers a **free one-hour consultation** to all new clients; call her today at **602-751-1178** or visit her website at www.elleinteriorsaz.com.*

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