




home + garden

collection

The background of the page is a light, speckled grey with numerous small, stylized leaves in shades of brown, green, and blue falling from the top. A white rectangular box with a thin grey border is centered on the page, containing the text. The word "Whether" is written in a large, elegant, orange-brown script font, while the rest of the text is in a clean, black, sans-serif font.

Whether you're building a home from the blueprints of your dreams or remodeling a house to suit your family's needs and wants, we want to help you relax. Your home is your sanctuary and proper consideration should be given to making it the oasis you deserve. Here are some tips and trends for you to ponder when planning your private retreat or an upscale entertaining space. We hope these ideas will help you imagine yourself in your newly designed space, custom created to help you relax.

Spa Soakers

TURN YOUR BATHROOM INTO A LUXURY OASIS.

More and more, home and boutique hotel bathrooms are welcoming soaker tubs, some of which offer jets and other options. While they appear sleek in their simplicity, these tubs have a lot to offer by way of enhancing the restorative nature of relaxing in the warm embrace of a well-appointed bath.

To start, buyers can choose between claw-footed styles, offering a retro elegance, or more modern-in-feel versions, which rest directly on the floor. Roman tubs, typically fitted onto a deck, offer yet another option. Take note: some tubs even venture out of the bathroom and into common living spaces. For example, garden tubs nestle into sunrooms or areas with a private garden view.

Single ended designs are most common, featuring one rounded end sloped for lounging or day dreaming.

Double ended tubs offer two rounded, sloped ends for dreams pour deux.

The **single slipper** version features a raised end to provide back support and extra comfort.

The **double slipper** is raised on both ends, so (depending on the tub length) two bathers can relax together.

If a return to the elegance of yesteryear tops your wishlist, the **clawfoot tub** fits the bill. It can be found with single-ended, single slipper, double-ended and double-slipper styles.

Pedestal or skirted tubs can read Art Deco or contemporary and come to rest on heavy a base (or plinth) and typically come in single ended, single slipper, double ended and double slipper designs.

Homeowners tight on space might consider a **Japanese tub**, which is smaller in length but deeper than other soaker tubs, allowing bathers to submerge up to their shoulders.

Be sure to research materials because their properties aren't just about aesthetics. Consider: acrylic (very popular, light weight), cast iron (durable, retains heat), solid surface (typically resin, hard surface), stainless steel (modern, contemporary), copper (holds heat, resists mold, bacteria) and stone (the statement maker!).

The awareness of the health and wellness benefits of water is centuries old, as is the use of chromotherapy, which is, in basic terms, the use of color to lead the body to health and harmony. Some soaker tubs have dipped their toes into color therapy, using colored lights—alone or with whirlpool functions—to invite even more wellness benefits.

Interior designers are well versed on the practical and visual benefits of soaker tubs and can provide experienced input on your purchase. However, the final say on the matter might be your home's water heater. Does it have the capacity to supply enough hot water to fill your tub? It's an important question to ask.





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CREATE YOUR BEST VIEW

My story began in 2000 at the Minneapolis Oprah's Live Your Best Life event. Oprah asked us to close our eyes and picture our "best self."

I was extremely moved by the vision I saw that day! I moved forward determined to make it come true. Sarah's Cottage Creations is a multiple award-winning Garden Design/Installation/Maintenance/Flower Farmer/Florist that reaches over 200 clients each season. We are passionate about the views we leave behind!



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JOSEPH ROBBINS
**VICE PRESIDENT
OF DESIGN**

What has been the biggest change to your industry in the past decade?

The internet. It is both resource and opportunity to overload clients with "likes". Some think this resource lessens need for Designers. On the contrary - it makes them a necessity. Building new or Transforming your current home is a substantial investment requiring the best possible result. Great Design is the thoughtful manipulation of what is possible. Clients seeking the best result should engage with true professionals as guides through a world of possibilities.



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SARAH BUERKLY
**SARAH'S COTTAGE
CREATIONS FOUNDER/CEO**

How do I know where to begin when adding to my landscape and if I can do all my desired projects at one time?

There is no question that landscaping can be pricey. But it adds to the value of your property as well as your personal life experience. Your first step should be to call a landscape designer. You should look for someone you can work well with, not necessarily the person who draws up the prettiest plan. The beauty of a well-designed plan is that it allows you to add to your landscape in phases knowing that in the end, your outdoor spaces will have that cohesive and beautiful look you desire.



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GOOD DESIGN DOESN'T HAVE TO BE EXPENSIVE!

KIRSTIN ADOLFSON'S HOME HAS ALWAYS BEEN HER CREATIVE CANVAS. From experience working without an endless budget, Adolfson has learned how to create beautiful spaces without spending tons of money. Now she uses her knowledge to help clients create well-designed homes that are comfortably within their budget. Adolfson Interior Design offers full service interior design and 3D modeling. Whether your look is high-end or from HomeGoods, Adolfson Interior Design can help create the home of your dreams!



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Patio Performers

OUTDOOR LIVING INVITES INSPIRED SPACES.

Warmer temperatures extend an invitation to create livable spaces beyond the patio doors and into our gardens and yards, which provide natural touchstones for homeowners.

Once conceptual parameters have been established for a backyard patio venue, you must address the question of which materials to use, keeping optimal entertaining capabilities and aesthetics in mind. Pavers have long been, and continue to be, a strong option for patios. Some homeowners have used stamped concrete as a unique option for terra firma!

Pavers can be installed to create unique patterns and designs, making your project stand out. Repair of pavers is simpler since you can excise and replace the damaged paver.

Proper installation is key. If patio pavers are installed correctly, they should be able to handle temperature fluctuations (even frost). If done well, joint sand shouldn't need to be replaced as often. It could be worth investigating polymeric sand, which is said to prevent grass/weeds from growing between the cracks.

Interlocking pavers can be practical. But keep in mind what other elements will be used in the area to heighten visual interest.

Architectural slab pavers can provide a more natural look, but are potentially more sensitive to freezing and thawing.

Stamped concrete can beautifully replicate the look of brick, granite, slate, wood and more for a patio, path or driveway.

While stamped concrete can cost less than concrete pavers, there are levels of materials that can affect the final bill. Basic options feature one pattern and a single color; intermediate options can have two-three colors; and the high end of the scale includes hand-stained variations and a host of other personalized options, including saw-cutting (patterns, logos, etc.) and hand-tooling which gives edges a more "natural" appearance.

In this neck of the North, issues related to freezing and thawing impact outdoor elements. Weather can also have an impact on color fading.

Be sure to ask the experts. After understanding the scope and vision of your design, they are best suited to help homeowners choose the optimum products for their home and landscape design projects.

Coral Comes Alive

DAB OR DOLLOP YOUR HOME IN COLOR.

For 2019, Pantone crowned living coral as the couleur de l'année, calling it, an animating and life-affirming shade of orange with a golden undertone. Leatrice Eiseman, the institute's executive director, says, With consumers craving human interaction and social connection, the humanizing and heartening qualities displayed by the convivial Pantone living coral hit a responsive chord.

Not sure how to weave living coral into your home's palette? While some spaces could call for a bright punch of color, there are other, more subtle ways, to keep up with annual color trends. Think decorative décor elements; throw pillows; blankets; small painted furniture pieces; table linens; and more.

Don't forget to use your local garden center or even your own yard for inspiration. Bring living coral indoors with properly-hued varieties of begonias, coral charm peonies, dahlias, Gerbera daisies, geraniums or hibiscus, for starters.

Bottom line, when it comes to inviting the color of the year into your home, be sure it will marry well with your overall décor choices. And if it doesn't, there's always next year!



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Printed in the United States of America

Photos istock.com pg 26.Jamakosy, Swisty242,
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35. Galina Pavelchak, Nenov