

HOME PLANNING

IN LIVING

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Calgary Sun

When a client asked Verna Leask to splash butter yellow on his newly plastered walls, she didn't hesitate.

For Leask, an interior designer with Verna Leask Design and Contracting Ltd., it was the perfect way to inject some color into the Signal Hill home.

The client — who didn't want to be named for security reasons — had craved a bright, sunny home after leaving a neutrally based home in the country.

"This was a big leap from what he had before, but he was brave enough to say OK," said Leask, noting changes down the road will simply involve a new coat of paint. After applying five different golden tones side-by-side as samples in each room

— and examining them at different times of the day — the buttery hue won.

Leask said adding the golden scheme was a perfect fit for the open concept home which includes mainly neutral features such as hardwood flooring, granite countertops, honey-colored cabinets, a soft taupe carpet and white baseboards.

"A neutral scheme would have worked, but you would have ended up feeling the volume of the space," said Leask of the high ceilings and oversized windows. "The color adds more character."

The intensity is constant through the home, but thanks to light and shadows, almost every corner has a different hue.

Leask said it's not critical to stick to one color scheme in many homes, however in this case her client sought a clean, balanced look without a lot of different tones.

Here's how to do it

If you're intrigued, but leery, of injecting color into your home, consider this:

- Purchase several samples and apply several strips close to each other in various rooms where you are contemplating adding color. This will help you in choosing the color you prefer, as well as give you an idea what it will like at various times of the day.

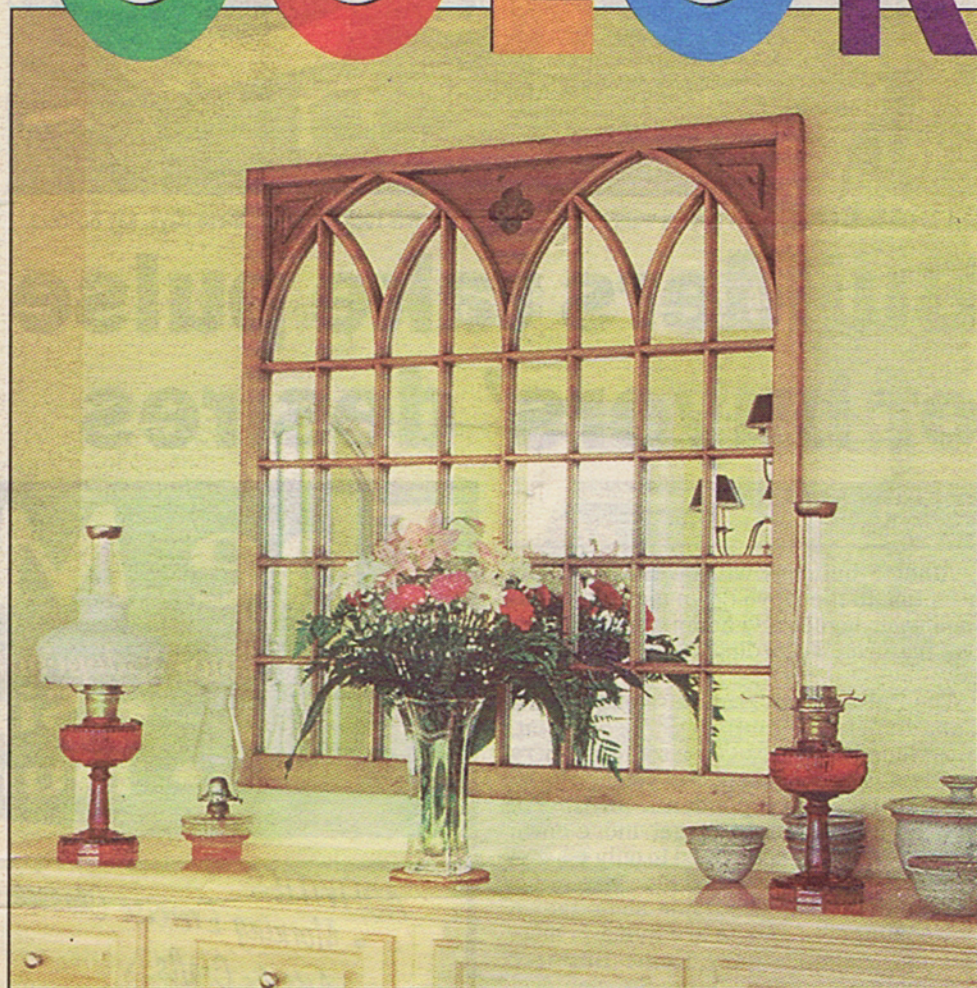
- Don't be afraid to introduce more than one color in areas that are naturally separated. A bedroom or bathroom doesn't have to follow the same color as the rest of the home.

- Paint should be the last thing to pick when designing a room's color theme. It's cheap and can be changed easily to complement upholstery, window coverings and other concepts you are planning to incorporate into the room.

- Once you've applied the paint and are unsure if it's going to work for you, wait a couple of weeks until you have all the artwork and furniture back in place. With the final details complete, chances are you'll be more satisfied with your choice.

— Source: Verna Leask Design and Contracting Ltd.

COLOR



WARM AND INVITING ... buttery yellow adds life to this Signal Hill home.