



# COLOR CODED

A neutral background palette; some bold, punchy accessories; and a bit of practical design know-how can add a feeling of calm and consistency to any interior space.

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WITH EACH YEAR COMES THE AMASSING OF ITEMS that, in time, can feel overwhelming in a space. Competing colors, patterns and graphics can muddy up an interior design, making it feel small, cramped and chaotic. The New Year is all about fresh starts. What better time to reevaluate your home's décor to determine if it still suits your style and feels like the well-kept space it should be?

When Dallas, Texas, interior designer Abbe Fenimore was tasked with helping a young newlywed couple create a more streamlined and organized aesthetic in their home, she knew exactly how to do it: Get creative with color and accessories. But, she notes, "It was crucial to find a way to mix the homeowners' love of color and patterns in a way that would not look too young." Moreover, Abbe needed to find a harmonious balance that would yield "the perfect blend of masculine and feminine." Read on to discover how Abbe achieved her goal, as well as her best tips for creating an organized, clutter-free space with the help of color, bold graphics and a few well-placed accessories. □

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For consistency and cohesiveness, start with a neutral color palette. This not only helps create connectedness in a space, it also encourages a calm and soothing ambience. Before adding in the bright splashes of color, Abbe started with a combined dominant palette of white, eggshell, powder-blue and espresso-colored hardwood. She then introduced punches of color by incorporating decorative items into the design. "If, for example, you want turquoise to be a dominant color in your home, add a few pops of that color in each room," Abbe says. "Complementary pieces of art, throw blankets, pillows and a few accessories in your chosen color will help tie all the rooms together."



