

Miami Herald

David Bromstad: Adding an unexpected element to your home



Miami Herald

Unique Visitors Per Month:13,162,150

<http://www.miamiherald.com/living/home-garden/article31470908.html>

August 19th, 2015

People ask me how I define my personal style. Many of my fans think my design style is “super mod” or contemporary, but I would never define myself in that way. I always define my personal style as eclectic with a touch of whimsy!

If you have seen my home in some of my social posts or magazines, you would have noticed the whimsical side of my personality throughout my decor. I have a neutral palette with pops of unexpected color and some fun unexpected elements. For instance, I have a very traditional painting of a young girl that was purchased at a second-hand store. She is sitting in a chair, all proper and lovely. I loved the painting, but thought it needed some “Bromstad” drama, so I added a mustache to the painting for fun and I simply ADORE her.

Now, I am not saying you have to be that dramatic — that’s my own home — but you can always add some fun touches in unexpected ways. I love walking into a traditional home only to find a fabulous outrageous piece of art or sculpture that doesn’t necessarily “match” the style of the room. It’s that unexpected moment that will create conversation in your home. I love a surprise in design and I love to bring a bit of fun and excitement when I create a space.

Adding unexpected elements to your home can be very easy. It can be from the very simple to the very dramatic. Unexpected can be with color, materials, art, fabric, and most definitely, the furniture. If your style tends to be more simple and safe, add a pop of unexpected color in your accents and accessories. If you have a very neutral room, these colorful accents/accessories really make a statement. Maybe it's vibrant yellow or a lush delicious purple, even a sexy red. You can carry this color theme throughout the space to create a story with the addition of pillows, throws and art.

How about something a bit more fashionable? Instead of painting that accent wall with paint, choose a unique wall covering made of textured fabric or natural materials such as wood, glass or stone. There are so many options with wall coverings (formerly known as wallpaper), you will be amazed!

If I was the one creating your accent wall, I would add some additional drama with a faux animal head. One of my faves are the white faux animal heads with the gold horns. Chic, sexy and unexpected. There are no rules and no limits to adding unexpected elements, you just need to be creative and take a risk!

David Bromstad is host of HGTV's 'Color Splash' and designer of David Bromstad Home by Grandin Road.