



House Beautiful
NEXT WAVE
2019

1. "If punk rock has taught me anything, it's to do everything yourself. All of my favorite interior designers were self-taught."

—MAX HUMPHREY
@maxwhumphrey

“Never Take Anyone’s Advice.”

...and other life-changing tips from 10+ years
of Next Wave designers.

2. "Old and new belong together. A mix of modern pieces and antiques never tires." —CALEB ANDERSON @drake__anderson

Reported by Kathryn O’Shea-Evans



3. “I love to use wallpaper in mundane spaces. Hallways, pantries, powder rooms—all become moments of joy and funkiness. Areas of transition can be places you enjoy spending time in.”

—FAWNGALLI
@fawngalliinteriors



4. “Choosing the right light bulb is very important. LED bulbs are energy efficient, *and* they can look great.”

—PALOMA CONTRERAS
@palomacontreras
design



5. “Wicker is an element I love for its texture and versatility. Wicker baskets are so functional for storage, but a wicker animal brings a sense of whimsy.”

—AMY BERRY
@amylberry



6. “Update your **light switches!** Elegant controls add a spectacular element to an older home or character to a new one.”

—COURTNEY HILL
@courtneyhillinteriors



7. “Great art and fabulous antiques only get better with age. It’s better to cry once and have a forever piece.”

—CHANDOS DODSON EPLEY @chandosinteriors

8. “Follow your gut. If you have to talk yourself into liking something, you probably don’t.” —OLIVIA ERWIN @oliviaerwin

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9. “Look up! We use ceilings a lot. Through them, we define the lines and beauty of a space.”

—JULIO SALCEDO @scalar_architecture



10. “Every house should have a **great bar**. It is the central point of a party, and if you entertain a lot, it will be celebrated, so put some thought into it.”

—JORDANA JOSEPH @jorjedesign



11. “Never underestimate the power of paint. You don’t have to break the bank to achieve a new look. A fresh coat in a vibrant color takes an old piece of furniture or an empty white room and gives it new life.”

—CHAUNCEY BOOTHBY @chaunceyboothbyinteriors



13. “Actually **use your beautiful things!** I have a chocolate lab and white furniture in my living room. It took some training, but now he knows the furniture is off limits.”

—LINDSEY LANE @lindseylanedesign



15. “Don’t be afraid of dark. I used this rich Benjamin Moore Midnight Blue on an accent wall—darker than I’d ever dared. It made the whole space come to life.”

—JEAN LARETTE @jeanlarette



12. “Classics never go out of style. I hesitated about doing a **white kitchen** in my own house, thinking I’d been there, done that. But I’m so glad I did. I will never tire of it.”

—ALEXANDRA KAEHLER @alexkaehlerdesign



14. “Pull floor patterns from **ancient buildings**. One inspired the checkerboard pattern of the marble floors in my Los Angeles home.”

—NATE BERKUS @nateberkus



16. “**Art, art, art!** Start young and buy the best you can afford. Its ability to transform a room is unlike any other design tool.”

—JEAN LIU @jeanliudesign



17. “The splurge everyone should make is a fabulous **master bathroom**. I used hand-painted porcelain sinks in mine.”

—TODD RICHESIN @toddrichesin



20. "Use **tall pieces** in a low-height room. Short furnishings would make the ceiling feel that much lower to the ground."

—JASON OLIVER NIXON
@madcapcottage



21.
"The most important first step in design is a good floor plan."

—JESSICA HELGERSON
@jhinteriordesign

18. "In an open seating plan, always use a well-proportioned **statement coffee table** to ground the arrangement and give it a sense of place."

—SEAN MICHAEL
@seanmichaeldesign

19. "Get creative when thinking about form and function. A client in a traditional Georgian home needed it to work for her modern way of entertaining. We opted for an asymmetrical, organic space that encourages guests to float through the room while engaged in conversation."

—KATE COUGHLIN
@katecoughlininteriors



22. "My clients ask about the most important pieces to invest in: I believe in upholstery and art! They help anchor a room."

—ASHLEY DARRYL
@ashleydarryl

23. "Make sure you're having fun. What's more fun than making your own home more beautiful?" —ECHE MARTINEZ @echemartinez

24. "When you're given a dark space that doesn't have great light, **create your own light**. In this kitchen, we used Sherwin-Williams's sunny Energetic Orange, and it turned out just fabulous—so cheerful."

—MATTHEW BOLAND
@mmbstudio



25. "Don't settle."

If you have your heart set on a piece, don't try to find something similar just to save money. Chances are, you'll never be completely satisfied with the substitute (or its quality)."

—BRIAN WATFORD

@brianwatfordinteriors





26. “When clients want a quick, impactful update, I recommend the pieces that take up the most **surface area**, like rugs, paint color, or window treatments.”

—TINA RAMCHANDANI
@tinaramchandani



27. “Buy one good piece of furniture every year, and in five years, you’ll have five pieces. Everything else may change, but these will remain constant.”

—JEFFREY BILHUBER
@jeffreymbilhuber



28. “In the master suite, decor can deviate from the common areas and really reflect your personality.”

—ALI VANDERPOOL AND ARIANA VILLALTA
@theelegantabode

29. “Faux paint, lush lacquer, or wallpaper on a ceiling will garner that ‘Wow’ response.”

—LESLIE MAY
@lesliemaydesigns



30. “Black works with any style. The misconception is that **dark colors** make spaces feel smaller; they actually recede.”

—CARRIE FUNDINGS-
LAND @houseplayinc



31. “Being able to visualize the scale of a piece is critical. In our office, we say, ‘When in doubt, tape it out!’”

—KYLEE SHINTAFFER
@kyleeshintaffer



32. “Embrace **mixed metals**. It can feel like the fixtures are curated and bespoke.”

—SHELLEY JOHNSTONE
@shelleyjohnstone
design



33. “I indulged in a **silk carpet** and realized it’s better to live beautifully than in fear. Natural-fiber carpets are incredibly easy to clean!”

—BENNETT LEIFER
@bennettleifer

34. “The strange bust from the flea market, the weird painting you are drawn to: Buy them all. Curate a space that is truly one of a kind.”

—STEPHANIE SABBE
@sabbeinteriordesign



35. “Don’t be afraid to use inherited antiques. Add a backdrop with exciting wallpaper: The combination is simply the best.”

—SARA GILBANE
@saragilbaneinteriors



36. “There’s no substitute for natural light. Create opportunities to let the sun shine in—the bigger the windows, the better!”

—CATHERINE KWONG
@catherinekwongdesign

37. “It’s a bit of an investment, and you can’t take it with you when you leave, but nothing brings va va voom like **vibrant wallpaper** in a conversation-topic pattern.”

—EMILIE MUNROE @studiomunroe



38. “The least expensive action: edit, edit, edit.” —KATIE SUTTON @cullmankravis