



Metallic furniture and a two-tone rug add interest to this neutral-hued room designed by Hee Seung Lee of Jeffrey Beers International at 277 5th Ave in New York City.

Three Marks



DESIGNERS CORNER

Decorating With Neutrals — Without Being Boring

The trick is to layer and accessorize properly, experts say

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Designer's Corner



Mansion Global tackles an interior design topic with an elite group of designers from around the world who work on luxury properties. This week we look at how to decorate a room with neutrals.

<https://www.mansionglobal.com/articles/decorating-with-neutrals-without-being-boring-103754>

Clean, rich, Zen—neutral hues have a sophistication all their own. The absence of color saturation can have a calming effect on your home. "Neutral tones create a soothing atmosphere, a sense of serenity, and a certain elegance," said Pierre-Yves Rochon, principal and global design director of PYR in Paris and Chicago. And neutral does not mean boring. With expert placement of light and shadow, and the choice of materials, textures, and patterns, you can create a dynamic space, Mr. Rochon said.

Focus on Details

"Neutral materials and finishes allow for subtle yet sophisticated design accents, such as polished metal trims inset against white Italian leather, black granite strips arrayed within a field of silver travertine, dark stained white oak wood highlighted with blacked stainless steel. Within the overall neutral setting, the layers of subtle material and finish detailing never gets boring. Hue variations, depending on coloration, can allow for a softer and/or natural look and feel.

"Darker colors, balanced nicely with lighter tone finishes, can definitely add depth and warmth, using the appropriate material. Dark stained white oak throughout all its spaces provides visual depth and material warmth.

Patterns can be designed into the floors, walls, or the ceilings. Whether the patterns become a focal point or a layered background can be controlled by the scale regardless of the pattern layout. For example, linear stone strips as a pattern in the floor can act like an area rug that visually anchors the room.

"Lighting (whether natural or artificial) is key and can highlight textures, patterns, materials and even walls."

—Hee Seung Lee of Jeffrey Beers International based in New York 