

# Vestibule

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## Warm & Welcoming

Design Ideas to Make Your Home Shine



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NEWTON-BASED INTERIOR DESIGNER SHARES HER THOUGHTS ON THE LATEST DIRECTION IN DESIGN

# TREND TRACKING

**Vani Sayeed of Vani Sayeed Studios keeps close watch** on both local and national design trends. Along with her friend, interior designer Jill Litner Kaplan of Jill Litner Kaplan Interiors in Newton, she answered some questions about the latest home design developments.

## **Overall, how is home design changing?**

The direction has been towards personality-driven, family-friendly and environmentally sensitive design. The first thing Jill and I noted was that people wanted spaces that are personal and voiced their personality. We call it the perfectly imperfect. Clients want beautiful environments that do not have a perfectly staged look. Rather, they want a dynamic mix of colors, textures, fabrics, lighting, art and objects that reflect personality of the owner. The trend is towards a more curatorial approach to design, incorporating the personality of the client, as opposed to the dated, coordinated style that has a more hotel-like, impersonal atmosphere.

## **What trends are you seeing in the kitchen?**

The kitchen is serving as the heart of the home, taking center stage, with ample space for entertaining and gatherings. People would rather stand in a kitchen and talk than be seated in a formal living room. This trend has been on the rise for a while. Kitchen renovations and remodels have been one of the top choices for families upgrading their homes. They're choosing gorgeous kitchens with lots of personality or clean-lined white kitchens with a timeless quality.

## **How are living rooms evolving?**

Large, formal living rooms are on the decline, since most young families don't use them. People prefer casual, comfortable, and childproof spaces that lead to multi-purpose transitional spaces in a home, such as a screened in porch, three-season room, or sunroom. With these spaces, families can appreciate the outdoors while staying indoors. Some of the spaces are fitted with screens that can be popped out and replaced with glass for the colder months. These transitional spaces are often styled with outdoor furnishings and stone floors that seamlessly integrate them with patios and are perfect for entertaining.

## **How are children influencing choices?**

Another trend is that families do not wait for children to get older before decorating and designing their rooms. So there is a diminishing trend toward disposable furniture and a rise in investment of timeless pieces. Clients prefer to have their children "grow" into the furnishings and eventually learn to appreciate their environment.



