

Refresh • Rethink • Redesign

REIMAGINE YOUR SPACE

Useful Ways to Transform Your Décor



LET'S GET STARTED!

Anyone who wants to organize, refresh, or even declutter their space faces a seemingly limitless task. Getting a handle on your “stuff” and taking a fresh look at your home is a healthy process and can help you make better use of your rooms and other areas, creating spaces and looks that suit your lifestyle and your taste.

In these pages, we offer some practical tips and design trends to help you out. As an all-inclusive community for those 55 and better, Splendido regularly assists new residents with organizing, home design and space planning, and even planning their move.

What follows are some of our “pro tips,” from how to get started, to options for getting rid of unwanted items, to advice for refreshing your décor and even prepping for a move. Many of these tips come from Splendido’s in-house designer and move-in coordinator, Marisela Panzarella. You can read more about Marisela on page 10.

CUT THE CLUTTER

#1: DON'T WAIT.

Before a move or a remodel, go through and get rid of things you don't need. Start now, so you can take it slowly. If you're not in a hurry, you'll find it much less stressful to sort your home's belongings.

Take it one step at a time, and take breaks throughout. Involve others, so you'll have moral support and a second opinion on some of your decisions. You might even enlist a "buddy" who also wants to get rid of things, so you can keep each other on track.

#2: REDUCE PAPER.

Shred it, scan it, recycle it—however you do it, reduce your paper piles! Tackle filing cabinets, photo boxes, magazine archives, even recipe cards. Warning: this will all take longer than sorting other objects.

#3: WORK ROOM BY ROOM.

When decluttering, take it one room (or closet) at a time. Set a reasonable goal for how long it will take you to go through each room.

#4: USE THESE THREE CATEGORIES: KEEP, DONATE, GIFT.

As you work through each room, use labels, boxes, or designated areas to categorize the furniture, art, and other items into three groups. Categories should include things you definitely want to keep, things to donate to charity (or recycle), and things your family members might want.

#5: BE RUTHLESS.

Be objective and be ruthless in freeing yourself (and your space) from "stuff" you don't need. Pare down kitchen items, clothing, linens, etc. to only what you use. Some experts say in a true downsizing exercise, you should keep only 1/3 to 1/2 of your belongings!

NO “MAYBES” ALLOWED

When sorting your things,
stick to your three
categories—don’t let
a “maybe” pile sneak in.
Each thing you consider
is a keeper or it’s not.

ARE YOU STRESSED ABOUT GETTING RID OF THINGS? DON’T BE!

Some decisions should be easy, like the examples below. In these categories, keep only what you need and donate or toss the extras:

- Linens: scratchy, old, or unused sheets and towels, mismatched pillowcases, towers of washcloths or kitchen towels
- Old or already read magazines and newspapers
- Takeout menus, flyers, recipes
- Clothing that doesn’t fit, you never liked, duplicates
- Outdated media you no longer use, like VHS tapes, DVDs, and CDs
- The electronics that go with the media above. (Especially if they’re broken!)
- Duplicate office supplies/art supplies
- Books and textbooks you will never refer to
- Extra sets of dishes, coffee mugs, cooking utensils, reusable water bottles
- Holiday decorations that are “extras” which you haven’t put out in years
- Tools, extra items in your garage that you’re just not using

THE NEXT PHASE FOR YOUR STUFF

Now it's time to take a look at your “donate” and “gift” categories of furniture and household items. First, get rid of the things no one will want (like a stack of yellowed printer paper or your pile of wire hangers), and do your best to recycle rather than throw in the garbage.

#6: BE ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS.

Don't flush or throw out expired/unwanted medicines. They will contaminate the water supply. Ask your drugstore to dispose of them. You can also look for a local hazardous waste disposal facility, which may take medicines, paint and chemical containers, and even old electronics.

#7: DONATE WHAT YOU CAN.

Clothing that's in good shape, kitchen utensils, even cleaning supplies... there are charitable organizations (not to mention friends and neighbors) that will welcome your unwanted items.

#8: SEEK AN OBJECTIVE OPINION.

This is where your buddy system comes in: If you can't decide whether to keep your best china or which dresser should go, ask a friend or family member to help you decide.





#9: GET SALES SAVVY.

When selling your goods, try an auction for high-end items. Then look for reputable antique and secondhand dealers. Often, they can buy all of your wares or put you in touch with specialty dealers like booksellers. Some dealers will come to your home, take what you don't want, and even drop off the donations.

#10: FIND A HOME FOR FURNITURE.

If you have heirloom furniture you'd like to pass on, don't be surprised if your family doesn't want it either. Today's tastes run toward comfort, informality, and practicality. In cases like this, you can find a good consignment shop and see if you can sell some of the pieces. For items you can't sell, consider donating to a good cause.

SPRUCE UP YOUR SPACE: The Latest Design Trends

“Design trends are changing. People still want to cocoon in their homes; they’re seeking comfort more than ever before. So cozy textures, warm colors, and uncluttered rooms—particularly bedrooms—are trending,” says Marisela Panzarella, the Designer/Move-In Coordinator at Splendido. Here, Marisela shares tips on what she’s been seeing on the cutting edge:

#11: REPURPOSE FURNITURE.

Refresh and repurpose your favorite pieces and use them as accents to your new décor. Think beyond painting—you can reupholster chairs or sofas, change out chair or table legs, and update hardware on drawers. Repurpose a dresser for a foyer, dining room, or even a bathroom.

#12: GET COZY WITH EARTH TONES.

You can warm up your spaces with soft browns and shades of sand, taupe, beige, and terra-cotta. Complement these neutrals with pops of color—a bright accent wall, statement pieces, or bold artwork.

#13: A RANGE OF OPTIONS FOR UPDATING YOUR KITCHEN.

Everyone wants an open floor plan—which ensures the kitchen is the very visible center of the home. Top trends in kitchen design include two-tone cabinets, handmade tile, and multiple work zones for flexibility.



#14: TURN YOUR BATHROOM INTO A SPA.

Comfort, relaxation, luxury... soothing colors, plush textures, adjustable lighting, and elegant décor can turn your bathroom into a spa-like space.

#15: MAKE YOUR BEDROOM DREAMY.

Luxurious textiles, muted colors, and soft corners are the trends for bedrooms. Use natural fibers like linen and wood for furniture (including a statement headboard) and accessories, plants (real or artificial) and diffused lighting from floor lamps and/or table lamps.

#16: CARRY IT THROUGH TO THE LIVING ROOM.

All of the above comes together in the room you use the most: plush fabrics, natural fibers, use of earth tones with splashes of color. Add in organic shapes, rounded sofas and chairs, and plants.

#17: GET SMART WITH SMART-HOME TECHNOLOGY.

It may not exactly be home design, but adding smart appliances, lighting, doorbells, and more will refresh your home and your lifestyle!

“There is so much to say about all the design trends going on right now,” says Marisela. “But the bottom line is, you are not obligated to follow any trends. Your home should be a reflection of who you are and what makes you happy.”



MOVING? NO SWEAT!

If you are packing yourself, consider starting to pack nonessential items like your home décor items, books, and craft supplies four to six weeks in advance.

#18: SIZE UP YOUR NEW SPACE.

Get a feel for the size of your new rooms by comparing them to rooms of similar dimensions in your present home.

#19: PREARRANGE WITH FLOOR PLANS.

Draw plans of your new home if you don't have any, and sketch in a furniture layout. See if you need to pare down what you're keeping.

#20: COLOR CODE BOXES.

Once you get to the packing stage, use a color-coded system to organize all your boxes. Choose a color for each room and mark the boxes destined for that room with a coordinating color sticker.



STAGE YOUR HOME TO SELL IT

Staging a home leaves a lasting impression on a homebuyer's mind. Here are some tips to get you started.

#21: FOCUS ON KEY ROOMS.

Your living room, kitchen, and master bedroom have the most potential for influencing buyers, so focus on those spaces.

#22: DON'T GET PERSONAL.

To help buyers imagine your home as their own, create a blank canvas. Keep your décor and style, but remove personal photos, refrigerator magnets, and toiletries on your vanity.

#23: MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS IN WORKING ORDER.

Do a walk through and fix anything that indicates neglect (a burnt lightbulb, broken latch on a screen door, etc.).

#24: CHOOSE A NEUTRAL PALETTE.

If painting or redecorating is a necessary part of your home staging, go for neutral colors like gray, white, and taupe. This helps people envision themselves living there with their belongings.

#25: LET THE LIGHT IN.

Open curtains and blinds to let in as much natural light as possible, and turn on all the lights in the house for showings—even in closets and the basement. This makes a home more welcoming and attractive.

#26: REARRANGE THE FURNITURE.

Create as much open space as possible. (Hopefully your downsizing has made this easier!) This makes rooms look more spacious and again, helps buyers visualize their own furniture in the home.

MOVING TO SPLENDIDO? We Can Help at Every Stage.



MARISELA PANZARELLA,
*Professional Interior
Designer/Accredited
Home-Staging Professional*
**Marisela has moved hundreds
of people to Splendido and
provides many unique services.**

From the moment you decide to move to Splendido, we offer comprehensive, personalized services to help you every step of the way. From tips for selling your existing home to space planning for your new one, and all the logistics of the move itself—our experienced move-in coordinator will provide expert advice and assistance.

Our Complimentary Move-in Services include...

- **Space Planning** – We’ll be happy to work with you to complete a detailed assessment of what you’re bringing to Splendido and help you create a plan for every piece of furniture and art, so moving day runs like clockwork.
- **Downsizing** – If you will be downsizing, we’ll make this often daunting task less taxing with guidance on how to start, where to sell or donate items, and how to break down the process into manageable steps.
- **Alterations** – If you wish to make cosmetic changes to a Splendido home, we can offer advice on things like color and materials, and provide resources to help you get the job done efficiently and professionally.

- **Vendor Resources** – From painters and closet organizers to computer experts and movers, we can help you connect with high-quality local professionals.
- **Moving Day** – With a detailed plan in place, we’ll make sure deliveries go smoothly, furniture is placed correctly, you have food during the day and dinner reservations or a home-delivered meal that night. By evening, you should be comfortably settled in your new home.

To learn more about us and our move-in services, call (520) 878.2612.

“I was miles ahead of what I would have been had I had to do this myself. Marisela talked us through what we could do, and how we could do it. She’s so congenial, and fun . . . having somebody like that was fabulous.”

~ Ellie C.

“The help I got with my move to Splendido was just outstanding. And every question was answered; the staff were so helpful.”

~ Roberta M.

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