



It's All In The Details Accessorizing Your Home

*A definition of **accessorizing**:
the art of placing and arranging objects to enrich the style of a room, add personality, humor and most importantly, create visual interest.*

Think of accessorizing as the final touches on a great interior design project, the icing on the cake, the jewelry that completes a great outfit. It's the sparkle that finally gives a room WOW. Accessorizing is what turns ordinary into extraordinary and bland to beautiful.



At Fringe, **we believe every life is uniquely designed** and that is probably most relevant when it comes to accessorizing your home. Accessorizing includes the following design elements: color, lighting, artwork and wall hangings, occasional pieces, collectibles, accent pillows, rugs, artifacts, photos, candles, florals and even plants.

Everyone has preferences when it comes to accessorizing, but there are generally four different approaches which really define your attitude and style:

Formal – creates a sense of order, symmetrical, using classic forms and shapes, includes collectibles and mementos which convey a sense of heritage.

Casual – balance and proportion are important, gatherings are not usually symmetrical and often include nostalgia or whimsical items.

Contemporary – fewer items that convey sophistication. Items are chosen for form and not function; it's all about the art they convey versus anything important personally. Not active use of symmetry.

Eclectic – anything goes. It's what you love, but disparate objects play off of each other, in contrasting shapes, sizes, origins and textures.



So once you've decided on your approach, there are several key factors to consider.

First, there are three different levels of accessories:

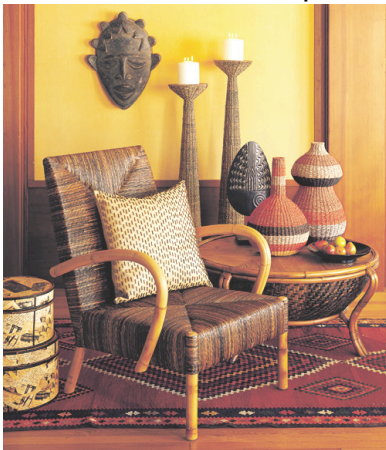
- Σ **Eye level** – usually art, mirrors, wall decor
- Σ **Mid level** – accent pillows, vases, collectibles and items that use color, texture and build on a theme and add interest
- Σ **Floor level** – occasional pieces, rugs that define the space, accessories which sit on the floor

Next, you want to play up focal points. These include:

- Σ Mantels – make sure your accessories fit the scale of your fireplace and accent design style and colors found in the fireplace materials
- Σ Key table tops, such as dining room table, buffet, cocktail tables which should never be left empty
- Σ Play off of architectural fixtures or elements in your home. Repeat colors found in art glass and shapes of arches in furniture and artwork.



Accessories, whether they include art, table top collectibles or candles, should be grouped together to achieve maximum impact.



1. Groupings carry far greater impact than small items sprinkled throughout a room.
2. Those items with more detail look better when grouped together.
3. Vary heights of the items for maximum impact.
4. Group together different items in similar colors. Similarity in color brings uniformity to unrelated things.
5. Arrange Items so that can be changed occasionally, rotated to different parts of the house over time, or be updated with seasonal/holiday items.

Make accents eloquent. They should convey a sense of what and whom you love; where you've been and where you are going. Tell a story with your accessories and your home will always serve as a welcome refuge to guests and family.

And finally, recognize when enough is enough. Learn to sit back and enjoy your creation!