

Finding the Right Color, Size, and Design for Your Space

COLOR AND SIZE

A rug can be the largest splash of color in the room or a simple delicate accent. It should accentuate the furniture and other décor you have or are going to purchase. If you are decorating a room from scratch you have the opportunity to decorate from the floor up. Most designers feel it is much easier to choose fabrics to compliment a rug than the other way around. Therefore, rug shopping is a great place to start decorating.

Regardless of whether you are buying new furniture or using what you have, knowing exactly where the furniture will be placed will assist you in finding a rug that accentuates the room. If you are planning to purchase new furniture, take measurements of each piece you have bought or will buy and plot each item on graph paper where you expect it to go. If you are using what you own, move the furniture into the positions you like best. Then using the [measuring guide](#), determine which size rug will work best based on the room.

The size of the rug along with the colors in the rug will give you a guide as to how much impact you can expect it to have on the room. If you want more of an impact you should use brighter colors and bold lines. If you would like your rug to be less of a focal point and simply add subdued warmth to the room then choose a rug with more neutral colors or tones and softer lines. Whether you want a rug with more or less of an impact, if you purchase a rug that is too small it will visually “shrink” the room.

The colors in your rug should compliment the upholstery of your current or new furniture. Therefore it is good to take a swatch with you when shopping for a rug. If you are shopping on the web, feel free to contact the vendor to verify that the colors in the rug will work with the upholstery.

Once you have picked out a rug that compliments the furniture colors and upholstery, you can shop for window treatments and then wall color.

DESIGN

If you have a rug design that incorporates a center medallion, the medallion should be centered with the midpoint of the sofa or centered under a table. If you think that your rug will not be staying center, then choose an all over design to avoid throwing your room off balance.

If you are putting a rug in a small room, choose a small pattern to make the room appear bigger. A large pattern will make the room appear too crowded.

If you have furniture with a floral pattern you can also choose a rug with a floral pattern. However, make sure the SIZE of the pattern is not the same to avoid losing visual interest in your room.