

SPONSORED BY MACY'S

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [A&E](#) | [Lifestyles](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Cars](#) | [Jobs](#) | 

Rugs to Unify Your Rooms



Lisa Schryver
Tribune Specialty Products

June 4, 2013

Decorating a home can be a chance to bring out your creative side. But it can sometimes be difficult to unify adjacent rooms and avoid making your home décor seem choppy.

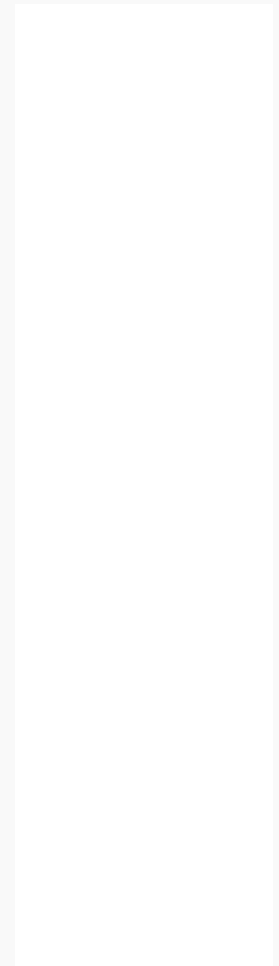
Rugs are quite possibly the fastest way to create cohesion in your home, and they are a quick way to define space in homes with open floor plans.

Area rugs also have the unique ability to become the glue for a home, by incorporating many colors that might be present in furnishings and accessories across multiple rooms, says Roger Hazard, designer and producer of A&E's "Sell This House" and director of design for Custom Cupboards. Reusing a specific type of rug — natural fiber, classic Persian rug or even cowhide — in multiple rooms will again establish consistency throughout a home.

When choosing an area rug, consider how much traffic the rug will endure and choose a rug material accordingly.

A lot of consumers are not very aware of the fiber content of rugs, which makes a sizable difference in how a rug will perform as well as why they will be a certain price point, explains California-based interior designer Sam Jernigan. The highest quality fiber is wool, and many wool area rugs can easily last 100 years or longer because wool is so durable.

The Sphinx Gramercy area rug is a perfect option for homeowners who aren't afraid of color. Its multi-hued pattern bursts with cool color against a soft, neutral background.





The Karastan Studio by Karastan Artois Avion Teal area rug offers earthy, washed-out hues that fade into one another, revealing a stunning flower-and-butterfly motif that adds garden-fresh style to any decor.



The primary unifying factor is always color, [so] if the color story is disparate, the effect will be of two separate versus cohesive spaces, adds Jernigan. Thereafter, if the style of the furnishings is also uniform, a good visual flow will result, especially if the sight line allows you to see both into both rooms simultaneously.

Paint Color Can Bring Rooms Together

One of the quickest ways to create room-to-room cohesion is through paint color. Director of color marketing for Glidden Paint, Barbara Richardson, says that the popularity of open floor plans today makes it easy to see multiple rooms at a time, therefore creating a need for color unity.

This does not mean that each room must be painted the same, but (the colors must) provide interest for the eye so that they can connect elements in the spaces and link them together,

she explains. For example, if a room is painted with Glidden's Deep Coral, it is important in the next room to incorporate elements, such as a pillow that will showcase that color.

Bringing in colors from one room to the next is a great way to unite the two spaces visually. Trina Turk's line of decorative pillows adds a pop of color and visual interest in an array of hues.

Another way to accomplish this is to use the Deep Coral in a bookcase inset, or on a feature wall in the second room so that there is a comprehensive plan between the two spaces, Richardson adds. Accessories of all sorts such as area carpets, artwork, vases, books, sculpture and fabrics all have the ability to transfer a color story across many spaces.

Where to Begin Home Decorating

After you have chosen a color palette, think about how the space will be used and choose design elements accordingly.

Homeowners shouldn't feel compelled to fit themselves into a box when choosing décor, says Hazard. There's nothing wrong with mixing styles; in fact, that's exactly what the world's premier interior designers do for their clientele.

There's no need to make everything match perfectly. Start simple by carrying a few elements from room to room and reference other rooms in your house in subtle ways, recommends Hazard. For example, if your living room is a bold blue, you could carry a touch of the color into your study with a blue throw pillow on an armchair and into your kitchen with a blue mixer on the countertop.



Manage Subscription
Home delivery
Place an Ad
Connect With Us
Site Index
Mobile

[Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [About Our Ads](#)

Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611
A Tribune Newspaper website