

CHARLOTTE URBAN

HOME

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CELEBRATING INSPIRATIONAL DESIGN AND PERSONAL STYLE



BETH KEIM

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A Lofty Dream

Loft living; the idea is something that has always appealed to me. No yard work, no replacing rotten wood or washing windows, just a big open space with a pool on the roof if you're lucky. Along with the appeal of lofty spaces, big windows, high ceilings and in most cases, exposed pipes, brick walls and old plank floors, an urban address usually comes along with your cool new space. Walks to the park, nearby shops and galleries replace cutting the grass on the weekends.

When it comes to designing a loft space, I think young and hip, along with a very cohesive color palette. With such wide-open spaces, creating small venues that relate to one another is the key, and recently, I was asked to help with one such space. The client wanted to infuse the red and orange found in a piece of sentimental art into the living areas. Having an inspiration piece, whether it's a rug, a pillow or a piece of art is the perfect way to start pulling colors, furniture and accessories together to create your look.





This particular space was long and narrow with very high “builder-beige” walls. The first thing I wanted to lose was the wall color; we wanted her art to make a statement, so a neutral wall was calling. Rather than the white I would typically use for a gallery look, I chose a slight grey. At the front door, however, I chose wallpaper and covered just a large section to create a strong entrance and mood when you enter the space. I gave her art a prominent place and then collected a few pieces to compliment it. The furniture and rug, then, needed to pop. I chose a long tight-back, Mid-Century-style sofa and two teal chairs. The strong graphic rug was the perfect piece to add a big pattern statement.

As always, I chose to mix in interesting finds and contrasting furniture styles for a very eclectic look. With such a small space and a kitchen that opened to the living area, furniture needs to be multi functional. I found a plank wood table on wheels, which serves as both a kitchen prep island and dining table and can be simply rolled to the side from time to time. A unique and small 3-leg table fit perfectly under the curved stairs to use for a small desk.

All these fun, bright and unique pieces are visible from the upstairs loft bedroom and definitely give my client that hip urban vibe she so wanted. Happy loft living!❖

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