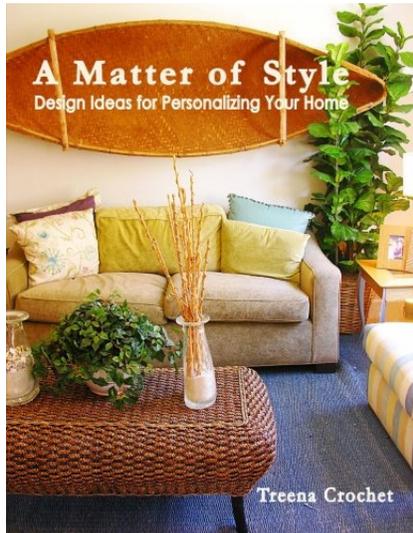


Regardless if your home is a house, apartment, or condominium, the latest book by author, Treena Crochet offers design ideas for creating beautiful, inspiring interiors in your home. *A Matter of Style: Design Ideas for Personalizing Your Home* features a wide range of stylish

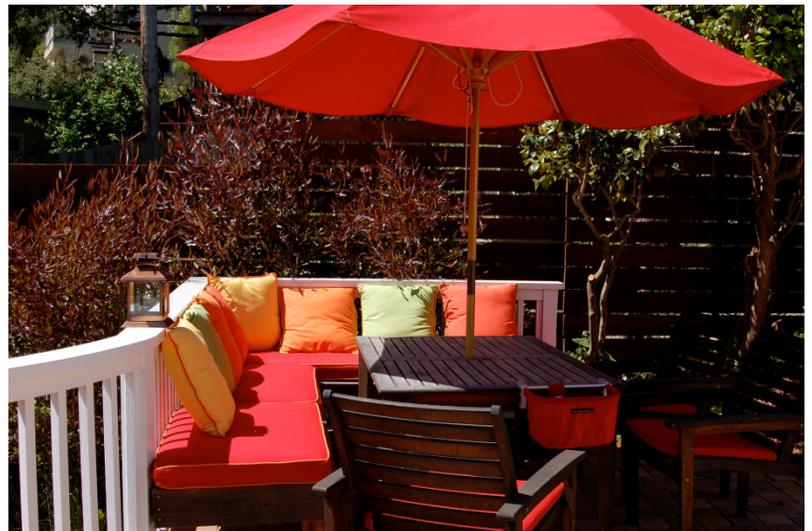


looks from traditional to contemporary designs that are shown in 200 color photographs of living and dining rooms, bedrooms, breakfast nooks, and home office spaces. This book guides readers through the planning stages of design for these rooms while focusing on colors, textures, and furnishings. Tips for designing special spaces like home theaters, outdoor patios, and children's rooms are included along with a window treatment primer, notes on how to accessorize with antiques and collectibles, developing a color palette, and practical lighting basics. The book is available in print and e-formats, through most booksellers. Read an excerpt from Chapter 5, *Special Spaces*:

Outdoor Living Spaces

Does your leisure time include barbecues, a lively game of croquet, or long naps in the sunshine? Selecting the right patio furniture is as important as deciding what should go in your living room or den. Do you want your outdoor space to be romantic or playful? Or, are you drawn towards the rustic qualities found in the Adirondack styles? There is a wide selection of garden and patio furniture to choose from with styles ranging from contemporary to traditional. Groupings that combine a variety of tables, chairs, and loungers offer greater flexibility when it comes to outdoor entertaining.

Don't be leery of mixing materials as well as styles. Remember, not everything in your garden is the same; successful landscaping develops from planting a variety of plants that combine different textures, heights, and colors. Take into account the layout and size of your patio and lawn. Remember that careful consideration of scale and proportion is as important as selecting appropriate pieces for your interior space. You don't want a small yard to look crowded because of oversized furniture. In larger yards, create "rooms" to maximize the focal points in your garden. Grouping small benches around an herb garden or koi pond strategically placed for viewing can achieve this.



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