
STYLE STATUS...

Update with COLOR!

*By Lori Levine Interiors, Inc.
Custom Designed Rooms*



Lately I have been receiving an overwhelming number of requests on updating tired basements and playrooms. Perhaps it's a generational thing... baby boomers aging, toddlers quickly becoming teenagers and space challenged families looking for 'new' places in the house to gather. If you're looking to update your basement or playroom décor

from – Little Tykes to adult escape – here is some no-frills advice!

Color, Color, Color! Bold strokes of coordinated color paints on various walls, ceilings, soffets as well as support beams are the least expensive way to begin to update your basement's 'personality'. The typical finished basement has a variety of angles, ceilings heights and lots of turns in the walls. By utilizing all these great angles, it's easy to wrap one color into the next. The trick to fashioning your old basement into a contemporary environment is to use complementary colors in the same value.

First, find your inspiration. Let's say that you have a decorative throw pillow on a beige sofa. The sofa is sitting on a neutral carpet. Look at the colors in the pillows. Are there vibrant colors that you gravitate to? Pick 3 of those colors and one neutral color as your paint colors. Now look at your walls. Is there a wall that the sofa sits up against that can be a focal point? Give that wall a jolt of color and surround it with the neutral. Does this main room extend into other rooms? Perhaps the common wall uniting the spaces receives your second color. The third color is for those dropped ceiling soffets and columns that are encasing the pipes of the house. Use a semi-gloss white on all door and window trims to unite the rooms and to make all those colors pop!

Now stand back and take another look at your color inspired, updated room. It's time to add to your creative foundation. Start with the lighting. Get away from fluorescent lighting and high hats as the only source of light in a basement. Add in some colorful table and floor lamps so that the light source is closer to the seating areas. How about some inexpensive throw pillows in darker shades of your 3 wall colors? Add in some framed vintage posters, a colorful afghan throw for the sofa and some basic accessories. Your room's easy yet high-profile makeover is ready to admire!



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