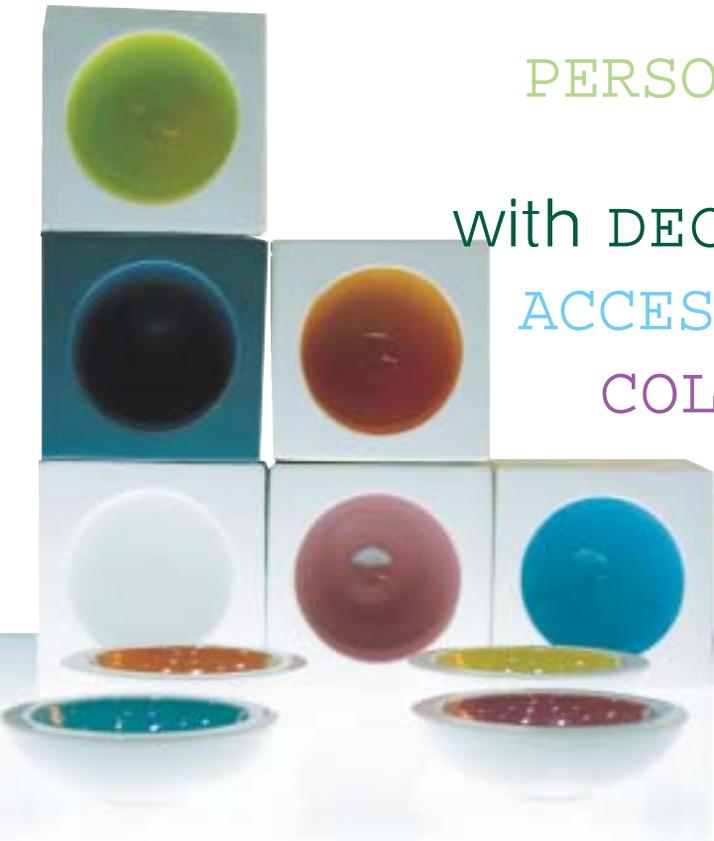


PERSONALIZE your home

with DECORATIVE ACCESSORIES and COLLECTIONS



By Catherine Fantauzzi



You have just moved into your new home or condo, or you may have just purchased a roomful of new furnishings. Have you considered the accessories to give your home that personal touch? Practical accessories should be considered in relation to the particular functions of each space in which they will be placed. Decorative accessories other than works of art exist in infinite variety, often combining some degree of usefulness with a primarily decorative role. Choices may be based on the preferences or interests of the homeowner.

For instance, a collector of vases may want to display some or all of a collection. Candlesticks used as accessories are particularly attractive. Introducing decorative accessories for no reason other than to fill space may well add nothing more than clutter. Select accessories that reflect the mood of the room.

Theme is also important to arrange objects. For instance, china of the same type, colour or shape should be displayed together, on a table, sideboard, in a case or shelf. These items lose

their impact if they are scattered throughout a space. If large objects, such as sculptures, are related in subject or texture, grouping them together makes a strong statement.

Symmetrical displays are easier to arrange, but asymmetrical displays are more exciting and interesting. Symmetrical arrangements have elements that are positioned identi-

cally on each side of the display. For instance, using china as an example, a teapot placed exactly between the same number of its companion cups and saucers achieves formal symmetry.

Asymmetrical arrangements have elements that are arranged differently on each side of the display. These groupings, when divided down the centre, have two halves that look different however, the group is balanced because the visual weight on both sides is the same. Again, using china as an example, centering a teapot between its companion cups and saucers on one side and the sugar bowl and creamer together on the other side achieves balanced asymmetry.

Also keep in mind that the collection you want to display should not compete for attention with the design of a particular space. Collections should be harmonious to the room's design. Group pieces together in order for the pieces to appear as though they belong together. Unrelated pieces can be unified by similarity of style, colour, and size.

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