

# BLACK & WHITE

(and a bit in between)

Timeless Interiors, Dramatic Accents, and Stylish Collections



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OPPOSITE

A white and mod-yellow color scheme makes for a bright and energetic bedroom.

LEFT

Antique chairs, natural sisal carpet, and a zebra rug warm this white bedroom. Swapping out the throw pillows and blanket would make this room feel entirely different when the whim strikes.

BELOW

A turquoise banquette and blue-framed mirror create the focal point in this otherwise black and white dining room.

know, I'm hard-pressed to find one who painstakingly coordinates her outfits. Back home in Palm Beach, there are plenty of ladies whose hot-pink sun hats just happen to match their nail polish and the jauntily tied sweater on their shoulders, but my friends in New York knit together chic ensembles that work in more subtle, sleight-of-hand ways. Usually there's a unifying thread that brings the look together, whether it's an underlying aesthetic or a subtly punctuating color. Maybe the red of a skirt is picked up by an earring carved to resemble a lion's head, with a ruby set in its mouth; or a cerulean blouse is mimicked by one bead on a twenty-stone necklace. Somehow, there's just enough repetition of a theme to create harmony.

Unifying factors are important in rooms, too. White—unless it's the main statement—is so predominant that it disqualifies itself as the element that imposes order. Even a few moments of black supply meaningful structure. If you have wood furniture in discordant species or finishes, think about quickly restaining all of it in the same wash. Using shots of gray—stone-hued paint, a dove-colored pillow, a collection of silver vases, a steel lamp—is a subtle but strong alternative. And finally, color is a visually muscular organizer: A few dots of red, or bright blue, or Kelly green can be all you need, assuming you're starting from a place of primarily black and white.

