

A GREEN DESIGN SCHEME

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People are much savvier about being eco-friendly. As a designer, I am always looking for ways to be creative with eco-friendly materials for healthier homes and to reduce waste. We all have to play a part in reducing our waste and being mindful of what materials we are using in our spaces.

VINTAGE

Using vintage pieces in design has never been more on trend. With the onset of the mid-century design trend, pieces that were once dismissed as old are now coveted. I have incorporated vintage pieces in my interiors from the start of my business. These pieces add soul to an interior, making it feel curated. The thrill of finding pieces at a garage sale or second-hand store still excites me.



Reclaim Vintage is a go-to source for mid-century modern pieces. The company is also breathing new life into its products by reupholstering them in modern fabrics. **KLASSEN PHOTOGRAPHY**

LIGHTING

We all know that energy-efficient LED lighting is the way of the future and ensuring you are using these bulbs in your existing light fixtures or going with LED-integrated pot lights for new builds is just right. You want to make sure you are using soft LED lights, made especially for interior applications. These emit a warmer light that is not as harsh, something that is important when choosing



His and Her Home is a local company specializing in barn wood, sliding barn doors and custom interior finishes. Barnwood is sourced directly from farms surrounding Calgary, and the pine and fir is also sourced locally. All scraps are kept for smaller projects like cutting and charcuterie boards.

KLASSEN PHOTOGRAPHY

the right bulbs for your lighting fixtures.

Biophilic design is also becoming prominent in lighting, a movement where the integration of the natural world such as plants is being used in the design. This creates a unique moment in a home.

RECYCLED MATERIALS

There are many materials available that are made with recycled material or have been certified Greenguard (low-emitting products for indoor air quality). These products range from countertops, tiles and flooring. Choosing these materials when making your interior selections will really help in decreasing your carbon footprint, make your home healthier and make you feel good about the choices in your home.

WINDOWS

Think about windows first when building your home or renovating. Windows play a big role in making your home attractive but also more energy efficient. Do your research when it comes to windows to ensure you are choosing the right ones and remember that the more panes a window has doesn't always mean it's better.



Jeld-Wen windows use pre-consumer recycled content in the manufacturing of its vinyl windows.

JELD-WEN

LOCAL

Focusing on local when you are thinking about purchasing items for your home is important, especially now. It is great to support local business. There are quite a few doing incredible things in terms of furniture design, millwork and mattresses. With sourcing and making each of their items in Calgary or Alberta, you are injecting money back into the economy and helping a local business thrive — something that is extremely important.

Alykhan Velji is the founder and principal of Alykhan Velji Designs, a residential and commercial design studio in Calgary.

