

## DESIGNER KNOWS BEST

### Your Paint Swatch Is Too Small...

"Paint large samples. I mean, half a wall or four-by-four-foot swatches. And paint them in different rooms to see the light—the same grey will look different on the main floor and in the upstairs bathroom."

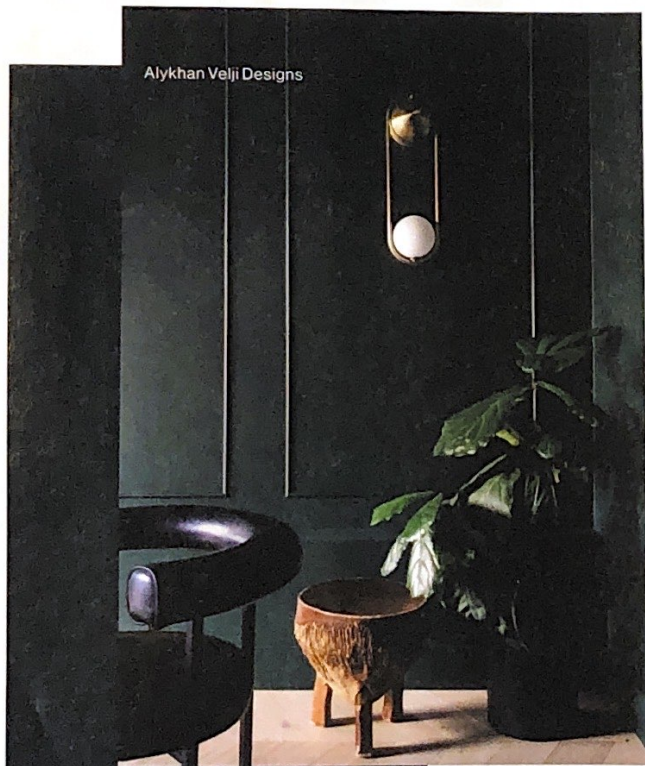
—Nancy Surby, Nako Design



### ...And So Are Your Rugs

"One of the most common design mistakes we see is rugs that are too small for the room."

—Jamie Hamilton and Greer Nelson, Oliver Simon Design



Alykhan Velji Designs

### Level Up Your Lighting Designers beg you.

#### Add one more accent.

"Decorative lighting and layers of lighting are key to making a space feel warm and inviting. I often find that these items are not considered when designing homes and it is a complete missed opportunity to add some personality to a space."

—Alykhan Velji

### Flowers Are Always a Great Finishing Touch

"It seems cliché, but fresh flowers really upgrade a space! Consider clipping blooms or branches from your yard or from around your neighbourhood to add an elegant touch to any room."

—Angela Robinson, co-founder of SPEC Interior Design



#### Consider your many moods.

"A few well-placed light fixtures can transform how a space feels once the sun goes down, creating anything from cozy to ethereal to dramatic with the right mix of light and shadow."

—Chad Falkenberg, principal of Falken Reynolds Interiors

#### Take time to reflect.

"Elevating a space can be done by amplifying natural light so that it's coming from at least two directions. This adds balance to a space and makes it feel bigger. You can achieve this by adding mirrors to walls in darker pockets and reflective surfaces and accessories—it doesn't require removing walls or adding windows." —Amanda Lwanga