

FALL NEWSLETTER

Nisarga Designs was launched in July 2013. I just finished furnishing a master bedroom for a client. It was a very interesting experience to source the furniture & artwork. It took many hours of work to put together a design the client liked and many trips to the showroom. It was also challenging to work to a specific budget and at the same time source custom made quality products. Working with Durham Furniture at the SOFA Showrooms in Mississauga I was able to make this happen.

I will be attending a color workshop by Janice Lindsay who is the owner of Pink in late October, which promises to be interesting.

I'm also looking forward to the Interior Design Trade Show in January at Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

I came across a couple of nice articles in Houzz.com about combining area rugs in an open floor plan and furnishing an apartment within four days, which I have shared here.

“HOW TO COMBINE AREA RUGS IN AN OPEN FLOOR PLAN”

Carpets can artfully define spaces and distinguish functions in a wide-open room — if you know how to avoid the dreaded clash.

Fred Albert

Houzz Editorial Staff. A staff writer and editor for Houzz, Fred has written...

Cattle are meant to roam free. Furniture? Not so much. Without something to contain it, furniture can end up feeling ... adrift. This is especially true in an open floor plan, where there aren't walls to distinguish one space or function from another. That's why area rugs are such a valuable asset in an open plan. They create the illusion of containment without the actual need for walls and dividers.

But when you have several rugs in view of one another, it's important to consider how they'll look together. The easiest solution is to use matching rugs. While that can be ideal in certain circumstances, at other times it can be boring and aesthetically limiting.

The secret is to know when it's OK to mix things up and how to do it right.



by Harte Brownlee & Associates Interior Design

When you have several area rugs in a common space, the simplest approach is to use matching rugs. This separates the spaces but keeps the feeling harmonious. In this example, the areas serve the same function, so there's no need to create a great distinction between them.



by Tara Seawright

Matching area rugs can feel a bit predictable and safe. Using an unusual rug is one way to avoid that problem. Here a bold graphic is repeated on both sides of the room. The repetition helps to temper the high-contrast pattern so it doesn't overwhelm the space.



by Rodriguez Studio Architecture PC

Two different floor coverings were used in this interior to help distinguish the dining area from the living area. The rugs share a similar color palette, assuring harmony.

by Zack|de Vito Architecture + Construction

One rug is patterned; the other is solid. But they look great together, because they share a common color.



by Begrand Fast Design Inc.

It's easier to combine solid carpets than patterned ones. Just choose two colors that look good together, like this pair. Pairing is always easier when one of the carpets is a neutral.



by Carolyn Miller Interiors

Although these two area rugs are very different, they're compatible because they share a similar color palette. They also share a similar *sensibility*, which is nearly as important. Had one been a modern geometric or overtly lower in quality than the other, this wouldn't have worked as well.



by Webber + Studio, Architects

Oriental rugs can be easier to combine than other carpets, because they often share a common sensibility and color palette, and the patterns are so detailed, they're less likely to clash with other patterns. The mix works best when there's a common dominant color, as in this yellow-based pair.



by Architect Mason Kirby Inc.

I wouldn't expect to see an Oriental rug combined with a [flokati](#), but the mix works here. Again, it's easier to combine carpets with different textures if one or both are a neutral color.

<http://www.houzz.com/ideabooks/17080403/list/How-to-Combine-Area-Rugs-in-an-Open-Floor-Plan>

“Mission Possible: A Designer Decorates a Blank Apartment in 4 Days”

Four days and \$10,000 take an apartment from bare to all-there. Get the designer's daily play-by-play

Becky Harris

When interior designer **Dona Rosene** picked up a call from a number she didn't recognize at 5 p.m. on a Monday, she had no idea how busy her week was about to become. A single guy named Jared Husch from Miami had found her via Houzz. He was moving to Dallas that weekend, and he needed his new apartment completely outfitted by the time he arrived.

Bringing just his clothing, his dog and a juicer, the 27-year-old Husch asked Rosene to make the place clean and masculine. While she had a lot of freedom in the design, everything she chose had to be readily available and delivered by that Friday, four days away.

Husch gave her a \$10,000 budget for furniture and accessories. Here's how she did it.

Houzz at a GlanceWho lives here: Jared Husch and his dog, Dakota

Location: Uptown Dallas, **Size:** 900 square feet; 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom



by Dona Rosene Interiors

Monday evening: The call. After the initial phone call at 5 p.m., Rosene and Husch emailed back and forth; he sent her pictures of his new empty apartment plus the floor plans and styles he liked. The contemporary apartment had dark wood floors, white walls and exposed concrete.

"I worked on some budget numbers to see if I could even do it," she says. "I wasn't completely convinced he was serious" that first night.

The apartment enjoys great views from the 20th floor of a building in Dallas' Uptown

neighborhood, an artsy enclave.



by Dona Rosene Interiors

Tuesday: Rosene hits the ground running. She quickly learned she could pick up pieces from stores like Z Gallerie, West Elm and Crate & Barrel if they were in stock or on clearance. She hit local Dallas store [Weir's Furniture](#) and found the sofa for \$1,299, deciding such an important piece was worth the big dent in her budget.

She also found the media cabinet, bar stools, nightstands, bed and mattress there.

Table lamp: Target; side table: Crate & Barrel



by Dona Rosene Interiors

From there she hit up West Elm and Pier 1 Imports and took photos to get an idea of her options and how to pull everything together. She snatched up a striped lumbar pillow at Pier 1, deciding it would give her the bedroom color palette, and put the swivel chair and ottoman on hold. The pillow gave her a cool masculine mix of teals, grays and browns to work with.

She found the bed at Weir's for \$300 and spent \$1,000 on a good mattress and box spring, consulting with Husch by phone about his mattress firmness preference.

A late night trip to Bed, Bath & Beyond scored her the bedding. "The rectangular quilting kept the clean and masculine lines," she says. Bleary-eyed, she made it to the checkout area with seconds to

spare before closing time, also picking up sheets, bed pillows and other necessities. (She added a few extra pillows for the photo shoot; a lot of guys don't want to fuss with so many pillows.)

Sculpture, turquoise shams: Crate & Barrel



by Dona Rosene Interiors

Wednesday: Rosene does some recon and tags home base. "I did a little shopping online before I went to Jared's apartment to look at the space in person — to see what else I needed and to confirm I was headed in the right direction," Rosene says. She had scoped out the art that breaks up the long entryway wall at Z Gallerie online before buying it, but the big score was the painting over the sofa; she found it at discount chain Tuesday Morning for under \$200.

This provided her with the color palette inspiration for the room.

A trip to Target scored her the occasional chair (on sale for \$120), accessories and one of the bedroom lamps. Next she headed over to [Robert Lawrence](#) for planters and plants that would stand up to the apartment's high ceilings without blocking the views or passageways.

Last she scooped up towels and accessories at Home Goods and World Market until closing time again. "It's a good thing these stores are open until 9 or 10 at night, or I would never have finished this job," Rosene says. *Side table (left): Pier 1 imports*



by Dona Rosene Interiors

Thursday: The final push. Needing some key pieces for the main living space, Rosene circled back to West Elm, where she scooped up the coffee table, and to Crate & Barrel, where she found a floor lamp that was in stock. Finding a rug that would lighten up the dark wood floors was a big

challenge. Over at the clearance — that is, in-stock — section, Rosene found a so-so plaid rug rolled up. Plagued with doubts about it, she went to see it hanging on the wall in the showroom area. Luckily for her, she ran into some workers taking down the rug you see here to schlep to the clearance section at that very moment. She snatched it up before they could make a step toward the clearance area. "This was one of many miracles that happened in putting this place together," she says.

Striped pillow fabric: Boulevard, Vervain



by Dona Rosene Interiors

Rosene realized that a king-size bed would overwhelm the bedroom and talked Husch into using a queen.



by Dona Rosene Interiors

Rosene returned to Pier 1 for this swivel chair and ottoman as well as the entry table and an end table in the main living space. She finished off the day before the reveal with a two-cart trip to a different Target store, finding a lamp to match the other bedroom lamp, more accessories and necessities such as kitchen tools and toilet paper. "The guy helping me get the two carts to my car

did not believe I would fit it all into my SUV, but I did, without an inch to spare," says Rosene. She got home with midnight fast approaching, ready to catch a few hours of sleep before the big day.



by Dona Rosene Interiors

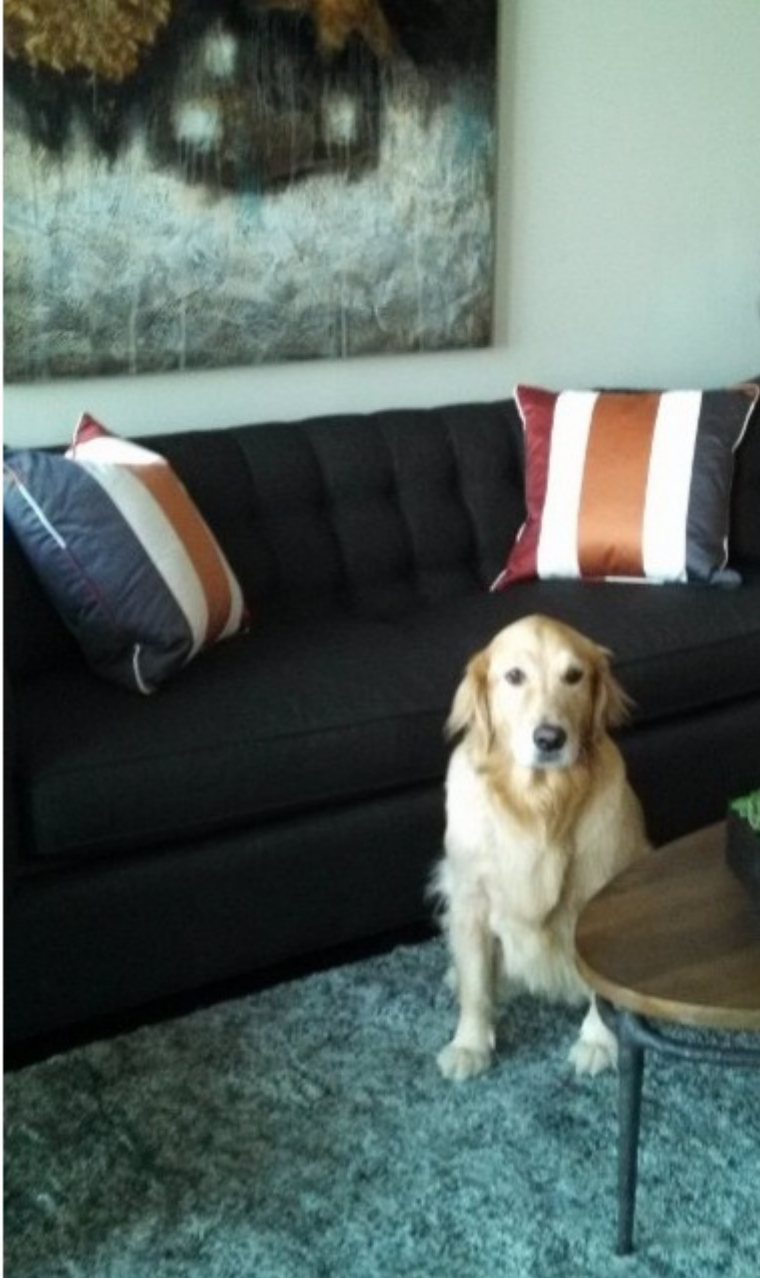
Friday: Installation and the big reveal. Two assistants with large vehicles and Rosene loaded up the things from her garage, then unloaded everything at the apartment. Then one went to Pier 1 for the bigger items and one went to Target to get items like extension cords, lightbulbs, a kitchen trash can and a silverware caddy as well as some lunch. A third moving man brought all the items from Weir's.



by Dona Rosene Interiors

Rosene completely outfitted the bathroom, right down to the toilet paper. A dotted towel from Home Goods continues the bedroom's teal and gray color scheme. She picked up the shower curtain at West Elm and the cart at Cost Plus World Market.

Bath mat: Home Goods



Friday evening: All done. When Husch and Dakota arrived around 5 p.m., everything was in place except for a few pieces of art. She showed him around, finished hanging a few last items and was out the door by 7. "This made for four very long days, but it all worked out," Rosene says.

"When you ask someone to do something most people think is impossible, you don't have very high hopes," Husch says. "I walked in after my long drive with my dog and opened the door into my apartment with my jaw on the floor. I wouldn't have changed one thing about my new apartment in

Dallas."

Rosene had such a great time on the project that when we chatted, she was toying with advertising similar services to the rest of the residents in the building. Then she reconsidered. "It was fun, but I don't know if I could work like this all the time," she says. "It was exhausting!"