

The 10 Most Important Design Lessons Interior Designers Learned This Year

by CAROLINE BIGGS | published DEC 15, 2020

2020 taught us a lot of valuable lessons, including ones about the home. “This year has helped so many of us understand the importance of ‘home’ and what it means to have a safe place,” says designer Ashley Moore of [Moore House Interiors](#). “Not only do our homes need to provide us with shelter, but they also should also bring us joy.” To that end, I asked 10 interior designers to share the biggest design lesson they learned this year, and they had some advice that everyone can use in their own space, no matter what it looks like.



3. Memories matter

“I would say our biggest lesson from 2020 is to decorate your home with items that remind you of positive times, like a unique piece of art that showcases a favorite place you’ve traveled to,” designer [Kate Taylor](#) says. “We tried to do this pre-pandemic, but it became even more important and evident as 2020 unfolded.”

10 Spooky and Sophisticated Halloween Decorations Designers Actually Put Up in Their Homes

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As we’ve seen many times on Apartment Therapy, [Halloween decor](#) can look sophisticated, cool, and so spookily subtle you might just want to keep it up all year ‘round (no judgment there). “Decorating for Halloween can absolutely be done in a non-gaudy way,” says designer Melissa Warner Rothblum of [Massucco Warner](#). “Like any holiday, going overboard can be too much of a good thing, but with the right color palette and accessories, you can keep things festive yet classy.”

Curious what kinds of [Halloween decor](#) items design tastemakers say are equal parts stylish and spooky? I reached out to some interior designer friends for their recommendations, and these 10 items are what the pros are decorating their own homes with this year. If you want to go all out and embrace the gory, we fully support it, but the best thing about these pieces is that many of them can be used well beyond October, so you’ll get more bang—and boos!—for your buck.



5. Spooky Serving Bowl

If you’re searching for a functional but Halloween-friendly way to liven up your dinner spread, designer [Kate Taylor](#) says to consider a spooky punch bowl. “This skeleton hand [serving bowl](#) gives a nod to classic Halloween decor but won’t overwhelm a space,” she says. Even if you’re not hosting your usual Halloween party this year, you can use this for serving soup at home or as a family candy bowl.

Buy: [Skeleton Hand Punch Bowl with Ladle](#), ~~\$99.50~~ \$79.50 from [Pottery Barn](#)