

To Think Outside (or Inside) the Box

By Erica Starich

When you hear the phrase “think outside the box” you think of different ways to use or do things. While applying that during a redesign/staging, I also “think inside the box”. Meaning, I like to think of creative and alternative ways to use things already in the house (box).

In any redesign or staging project, I practice the concept of using the homeowners existing furnishings and accessories. While it is the most cost effective way to design a home, it can also prove to be sometimes challenging. This is where creativity sets in and I begin to think of alternative uses for many objects. Some examples...

Sheets – bedding, window treatments, table runner, table cloth...

Wicker plate charger – table setting, artwork (when grouped together), as an accessory (displayed upright with a plate holder)...

Cup and saucer – dinnerware, candle holder, q-tip/cotton ball holder in the guest bathroom, fresh flower arrangement base...

Plates – dinnerware, candle holder, artwork, centerpiece base...

Orbs (decorative balls) – display in a decorative bowl on a plate or in a hurricane vase, replacing candles on candleholders...

Start thinking outside the box – or inside the box. Think of ways to repurpose your existing furnishings and accessories and enjoy them in a whole new way.