

LAKE NORMAN Woman

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF WOMEN

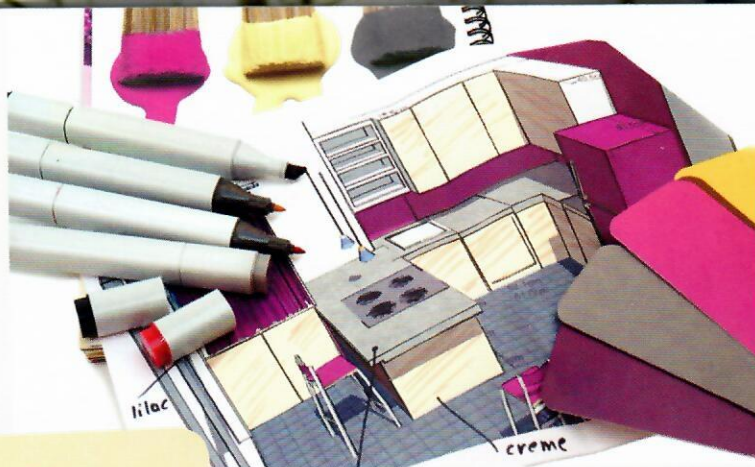
* **KEEPING**
new year's resolutions

* **WOMEN & BUSINESS:**
how to get new clients in 2012

predict YOUR FUTURE ...
create IT!

Physician Assistant Kristin
Prochaska of Mooresville
Dermatology Center

FRESH
starts



2012 *design* RESOLUTIONS

EACH YEAR we make resolutions about diet, fitness, time management, organization, charity, spending, or something else daunting and extremely difficult to do. Once I actually did give up french fries for an entire year. I tried again last year but I failed miserably! Have you had the ones at 131 Main? Mmmmm....Oh yes, design....

This year I am going to challenge those of you insisting on making "designing a room" resolutions to add the following to your list:



1. ADOPT THE "ONE-ROOM-AT-A-TIME" PHILOSOPHY—

I have a girlfriend who has a project going in every room of her house. She will never be finished, and she will never find a spot to rest. Focus on only one room to keep the project contained, and the project will be manageable rather than overwhelming.

2. EDIT— Start your spring cleaning early by giving away all of those items that you don't use or don't like. If the ceramic squirrel sits on your table only because Aunt Mattie gave it to you, give it away! And have a guilt-free time of it. Editing is the first thing you learn in design school. A clean slate makes your home feel new



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and fresh. Figuring out the simple solution is usually a more elegant solution than the "more-is-more theory!"

3. FINISH ONE PROJECT BEFORE YOU START ANOTHER—

Much like the "one-room-at-a-time" philosophy, completing any project allows you to feel closure and a sense of accomplishment before you start another task. This works great for things such as reorganizing closets, organizing photo albums, reframing photographs, painting a room, or crafting an accessory such as a pillow.

4. STEP OUT OF YOUR COLOR PALETTE BOX—

Try a new color! The Pantone Color of the year is Tangerine Tango. Not only does it sound fun, it can be revitalizing to pop a new color into the mix. If the last time you chose paint colors was in 2002,

when the color of the year was True Red, the whole palette has changed. The new neutral is driftwood, a cross between gray and beige. It feels weathered and worn and balances bright colors well.

5. FIND INSPIRATION—

Before you start any new room design, find something that represents how you want the room to feel. It could be your rug, a fabric, or a photograph. Revisiting that inspiration helps you purchase only items that fit the goal design.

6. MAKE DECISIONS—

Just do it! Most likely you won't do something you cannot reverse later, if necessary. But if you don't make decisions and stick with them, you'll never finish! Time and time again, I come across people who are so afraid of failing that they do nothing at all. This is not a test. It does not go on your permanent record. Designing is fun. Trust your instincts, and if you don't like an element in the end, laugh about it and change it later. Consider it a conversation piece.

7. SET A DEADLINE—

Host a party or book club gathering, anything that forces you to finish the room. Be reasonable and give yourself enough time; but a deadline will focus your thoughts and make sure you finish what you start.

Happy New Year! 🍷