

lake norman

WOMAN

CELEBRATING THE BEST OF WOMEN

*Say
cheese!*

**Tips For
Picture Perfect
Photos**

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*united
we stand!*

**Family Team
Building Ideas**

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featuring
**Robin Perrigo-Mermans of
ROAD to RESOLUTION—
Divorce Mediation &
Collaborative Family Law**

2021
SUMMER
CAMP
GUIDE

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*making
Her-story*



inside
design
with Starr Miller

bring the outdoors in

WHEN I PLAN A TRIP, part of the fun is dreaming of how to prepare. The same is true for planning a party. And let us be clear, we are all ready for a party! We get countless calls every week and the one common remark is, "We have been in this house nonstop for a year. We need to update now!"

We ALL want to entertain, connect, and be free. So, what will that look like? Friends, loved ones, young and old, their pets, bring them all! Just as you updated all of your furnishings. Your home is pristine. How do you entertain without worry?

The answer: performance fabrics. Not the outdoor awning fabric of old. You want the lush, sumptuous fabrics of today that you can toss red wine on and it beads up and rolls off easily. No muss, no fuss.

Today you can outfit your home in fabrics that do not fade in the harsh sun; they are durable, beautiful, eco-friendly, pet-friendly, and allow you to be carefree and relaxed. Frankly, I am going to need that since I am both a complete klutz, and I am sure I have forgotten how to behave in a crowd. I will need to concentrate on remembering my manners, not worrying about the fabrics in my home. ●

What Is the Investment?

These fabrics come with a higher cost. Is it worth it? Absolutely. But there are levels to meet all needs:

\$\$\$\$ - Luxury performance fabrics feel lush, soft, and come in designs that will fit in the most exquisite home. Here you can find sheers that work perfectly in the sunshine and patterns that are elevated and sophisticated. The protection is within the fibers of the product and offers best protection.

\$\$\$ - Mid-priced performance fabrics can be found everywhere these days. Sunbrella has broadened their capabilities and look to offer even the most discerning client choices they will love. And, they do not all have stripes and palm trees. The protection is within the fibers of the product and offers best protection. They are also based in North Carolina, a plus in my book.

\$\$ - Lower priced performance goods are also available. While they may not be quite as luxurious, they allow someone with style to have both choices and meet a budget. We select these for the hard-working items in the home such as footstools, banquettes, office chairs, or dog beds. The protection is often an after-market product, applied at the manufacturer that provides protection on the surface.

\$ - Lowest cost alternative is an at-home, after-market spray to make sure you get the same soil resistance. There are many to choose from. I suggest working with your designer to choose the best option for your circumstances. These companies also may be called to come out and clean should it be needed in an emergency and to re-apply solution when needed. Many are GREEN approved for the safety of your family.

Do not use Scotchgard-type products. They tend to become sticky over time and collect dust.

Starr Miller
Founder and Principal,
StarrMiller Interior Design

Allied ASID, IDS, CAPS



Our resident home-design expert, Starr Miller, has garnered local and national acclaim with more than 30 industry honors. An alumnus of the prestigious Parsons School of Design in New York, Starr has built a strong following as the principal of her sought-after design firm, located in Cornelius, NC.

She feels the composition of a space must originate with the client's unique perspective. Along with that perspective she brings together her team's collaboration, design skills and refined processes in a way which results in truly captivating homes for her clients.

StarrMiller Interior Design specializes in full-service interior design projects.

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