

lake norman

WOMAN

CELEBRATION

LIFE OUTSIDE
THE BENTO
BOX: AN LKN
WOMAN FINDS
BALANCE &
BLISS

pg. 16

featuring
DR. NICOLE NAYLOR
& DR. AMBER BROOKS
OF WEST LAKE
DENTISTRY

FINDING THE
QUIET JOY OF
gratitude

pg. 24

TIPS, TRICKS, & HACKS:
FAMILY FEAST
EDITION

pg. 50

Bountiful
THANKS



warming effects of the

bookcase

WHEN UPDATING YOUR SPACES CONSIDER THE BUILT-IN

bookshelves a great place to start. You may ask yourself, “Why do I need a bookshelf now that I read everything on my phone or Kindle?” You may not “need” one, but you may want one! Shelving adds architecture to your home. Books add warmth.

ARCHITECTURE

The builder grade shelving that was built into most of the Lake Norman homes in the 1990’s to early 2000’s is now, most likely, outdated. The ornate appliques, the arches, the fluting are all dating your home. It is time to renovate this area, and today’s bookcases can do the trick—they are simple and clean or have antique architectural remnants added for a lasting, curated look. You may add wood shelving, new cabinet doors, paint the cabinetry and shelving... the trick is to build the space so that it looks balanced, fresh, and not prefabricated.

ENHANCEMENTS

Consider adding wallpaper or painting the back of the bookcase. For wallpaper consider grasscloth, stripes, fun florals, or a quiet pattern. What you put on the shelves should inform this choice. If I have collections to display, I want a background that lets the collections be the focus. If I simply have books, I consider something a bit more vibrant to add interest. You can also paint the inside and back of the bookcase in a contrasting color but choose wisely as you want to enhance the overall space and not be a distraction. Stencils, beadboard, mirror, tile, and fabric are also options to consider.

DECORATING WITH BOOKS

Options include stacking the books on their sides, arranging by color, turning backwards so only the pages show, etc. Use beautiful bookends to add texture and interest. Take off the book covers for a warm, homey feel.

HARDWARE

Cabinet door hardware should be replaced with knobs and pulls that act as jewelry. Oversized hardware can make a great statement. Update the cabinet doors to reflect the look of your home.

OTHER ITEMS TO ADD

- Picture lighting or lighted shelves
- Collections - do not break them up, keep them together for maximum impact
- Art on the back of the shelf, on the front of the bookcase, or on a plate stand
- Sculpture or vases
- Plants
- Decorative Boxes

Always remember to balance color and size of items and add contrast to add depth to your arrangement.

Starr Miller
Founder and Principal,
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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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