



# News on the Move

Brought to you by: Linda Hiller Novak  
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## Bring Your Home Up-to-Date with This Year's Color Trends

Searching for a fast way to catch attention and bring out the best in your house? Go from drab to dynamic in just days with these hot color trends.

### The colors

Without a doubt today's popular color trends reflect the warmth and beauty of nature – with a touch of elegance. Blue Iris, Caribbean Sea and Ochre are a few of the new offerings to be found on this year's palette. Close behind is green – in fact, green is so popular it is considered by many to be the new “neutral” color to be used in almost any setting. Search for natural hues reminiscent of flora and fauna tones.

### The style

One of the newest color trends isn't the color itself but rather the location of color usage. Painted ceilings, floors and even cabinets are rapidly transforming ordinary rooms into extraordinary settings. Solve common design dilemmas by strategically using color to draw the eye upward or outward for narrow rooms or other common conditions.

### The future

When it comes to trends, knowing what is “out” is nearly as important as spotting the next big thing. While you might be able to get away with a shade of green that is a little different than this year's selection, some colors are a pure liability. Make it a priority to paint if your home is still sporting pastels from the 90s, brown/beige combos from the 80s, or (gasp!) avocado green and harvest gold from the 70s.

### Putting Your House Up For Sale? Get These Essential Tips.

If you want to get the best price for your house, it's essential to prepare it for sale. Homes that have been "staged" go for a lot more money... and sell much more quickly, too.

To give you a head start, get my free guide, "50 Essential Tips to Prepare Your Home for a Speedy, Top-Price Sale."

### Quick Quiz

Each month I'll give you a new question based on this newsletter.

Just email me at [Lnovak@maxbroock.com](mailto:Lnovak@maxbroock.com) for the answer.

Here's the question.  
Which famous motorcycle rally celebrates its 70th birthday in South Dakota this August?

## Add Value to Your Home with Bathroom Lighting

Lighting is a great way to give your bathroom a whole new look and feel – and it's an easy way to add value to your home.

Keep in mind that you can never have too much light in the bathroom. It is recommended that you layer light sources to provide enough illumination for applying makeup and for shaving while reducing glare.

Begin by selecting an overhead fixture for general lighting in the room; cove and recessed lighting are popular choices.

Recessed lighting in the shower area makes shaving and shampooing easier.

Your tub area needs good general light, which can be offered by recessed light fixtures. To avoid glare, aim the light's beam at the outside edge of the tub.

For vanity areas, keeping in mind that recessed lighting tends to cast shadows on the face, consider adding lights on both sides of the mirror, set at eye level. Coated or frosted bulbs are a good choice because they enhance facial features and reduce glare, while warm fluorescent bulbs offer even illumination for the face. Good picks for vanity lighting include vertical strip fixtures or decorative wall sconces.

Don't block out the light from windows - it will supplement or replace electric options.

Remember that fixtures in wet areas must be approved for such use.

# NEWS ON THE *MOVE*

## How Great Landscaping Says 'Come Inside!'

Creating an inviting landscape not only ensures a positive first impression with buyers but may also increase your home's value and lead to a quicker sale.

You don't have to spend a lot to make big improvements in your home's curb appeal. Keeping your lawn manicured – mowed and edged – and trimming bushes and trees is an inexpensive way to make a positive impression on buyers. You'll also want to remove any dead or diseased plants and ensure beds are weeded and freshly mulched.

Before beginning any landscape project, make a plan. And if you live in a neighborhood with restrictive covenants requiring approval by a landscape committee, be sure to follow proper procedures to avoid spending money on projects that you may be forced to undo later. A project plan will also help ensure that you make wise choices and stay within your budget.

Use color and depth to create visual

interest, and select a variety of plants that bloom or change color throughout the year so your yard will be attractive regardless of the season. If your yard is open to neighbors' yards, a street or public areas, consider screening to create a more private space. This can be accomplished with evergreen trees and bushes or with an attractive fence.

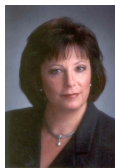
Sometimes what you remove from a yard can be as important as what you put in. If the front of your home is obscured by overgrown trees or bushes, remove them or trim them back to help buyers get a clear view of your home. Remember that the goal is to create a welcoming first impression that says, "Come in!"

### Trends in landscaping

- Low maintenance vegetation.
- More trees for shade.
- Decks, patios and terraces.
- Outdoor lighting.
- Irrigation system.

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## Keeping It Local

### Gazpacho Salad with Shrimp

Chef Rick Halberg, Director of Culinary Services for Hiller's Markets, has provided this wonderful recipe to enjoy the beautiful Michigan produce that is now in season. This is a delightful meal for a warm summer evening. Serve with a crisp white wine and a crusty bread for a complete and satisfying meal!

### Recipe Ingredients

1 1/2 lbs. small, peeled, white domestic shrimp  
1 1/2 cup red and yellow grape tomatoes, halved  
1 cup seeded, diced English cucumber  
1/2 cup each, red and orange peppers, diced  
1/4 cup minced red onion  
1 tsp. chopped garlic  
Generous 1/4 cup chopped cilantro, or more as desired  
1 5.5 oz can of spicy V-8 juice  
2 oz. fruity extra virgin olive oil  
1 oz. Sherry vinegar  
1 Bag Zataran's Crab-Shrimp Boil  
Kosher salt and fresh cracked pepper  
Shredded iceberg lettuce

### Directions

Bring a pot of water to boil and add a bag of Zataran's Crab-Shrimp Boil. Add shrimp and simmer until shrimp are just cooked through. Remove from water and stop cooking immediately by placing under cold running water. Keep cold.

Mix together V-8, olive oil, vinegar, onion, garlic, salt and pepper; chill. Mix peppers, tomatoes, and cucumber in a bowl; moisten with a bit of the dressing. Arrange vegetables on a bed of shredded lettuce, top with shrimp and pass the extra dressing around. Serves 6-8