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Focal Points in Interior Design



By Michael Jumba

A focal point is one of the key elements in interior design. It is the first place anyone entering any interior space sets their eyes on. Besides having some aesthetic significance, focal points act as the foundation upon which the interior designer builds the rest of the interior design. It, therefore, goes without mentioning that picking the right spot for a focal point is thus of at-most importance to an interior designer.

Even though some individuals may find it hard identifying a focal point in a room, the method is very simple. A focal point is that feature in a room that will attract an individual's attention while in that room. A focal point is meant to draw specifically the eyes of occupants or users of interior space and impress them. It may also create a certain mood or theme, that then define the emotional outcome in that interior space.

It is important to note that the structural shell of an interior space has an in-built focal point. All an interior designer needs to do is blend their design with these existing features. This should make the interior design work much easier. Some examples of



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in-built focal points include fireplaces, windows, built-in shelves, suspended ceilings or interestingly modified walls.

While the structural shell of a building or interior space may have an in-built focal point, a client may have other ideas or dreams. Further, some of the structural shells of interior spaces may not have an in-built feature that could act as a focal point. These factors may force an interior designer to consider creating a focal point. There are several options an interior designer could choose from. Some of these options include: Placing artworks on a wall, creating accent walls by painting the wall with decorative wall paint, using patterned wallpaper or using wall panels. Other options include using backsplashes, statement furniture or even an indoor sculpture.

There are two mistakes an interior designer ought to not make when creating a focal point in any interior space. They are: (i) having more than one focal point in a single room; and (ii) not using light. Even if a room has a structural shell focal point and you as an interior designer chose to create your own, you have to use everything at your disposal to ensure attention will always be placed on your preferred focal point. In interior design, and more so when creating focal points, lighting must always be at the centre. As said in our earlier article, light can either enhance or destroy the final interior design project objective.

Contact us. We will be more than pleased to work on your interior design project to turn your dreams into reality.