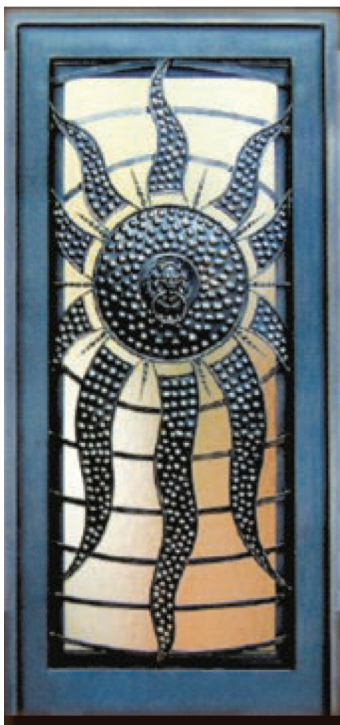


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## More Gigi from page 16

Shannon asks:

I absolutely love your section! I am in the midst of creating a warm... inviting colorful bedroom for myself and my husband. Do you have any suggestions for color to use that will remain timeless?

GiGi:

Bedroom color trends are about creating personal space that will express your inner-most desires. For many of us, that means a retreat where we can relax and rejuvenate.



People want to simplify their lives, and we see that trend reflected in color palettes for the bedroom and throughout the home. Our environment will also continue to play a big role in very soothing shades for the bedroom that are borrowed from nature.

These hues, especially shades of medium to dark browns, are perfect for the bedroom because they are nurturing and satisfying for our souls.

Greens and browns are a classic combo that's very popular right now. It is a great combo for the bedroom because of the feeling of warmth. You want to feel cozy in your bedroom.

Be very careful to choose just the 'right' shades—some are and many are not flattering to one's skin tone. You want to be sure to choose something fresh and light, not too deep or saturated.

## ENERGY SAVING TIPS FOR DOORS & WINDOWS

### Lower your energy bills:

- Worst energy-wasters: old single pane windows/doors equal a four-foot square hole in your house in terms of energy loss. They leak air and offer little defense against cold and warm weather. Replacing old, drafty, ineffective windows and doors saves you money.
- Weather-strip, seal, and caulk leaky

doors and windows and install foam gaskets behind outlet covers. Save up to 2% on your energy bill.

- Install window shading, patio covers, awnings, and solar window screens to shade your home from the sun. Use strategically planted trees, shrubs and vines as well. Notice a savings of 5%.
- Solar control window films applied to existing glass in windows and doors reduces demand during hot months, conserving energy when air conditioning is used. These films reduce exposure to ultraviolet radiation and reduce glare. Save: 5-10% on your energy bill.
- External Doors that impact energy efficiency keep the external cold or

heat out. Check seals around windows for damage or leaks. The quicker you spot a problem, the faster you minimize energy waste and cost.

- Weather-seal doors and frames.
- When buying a new door ask about it's U-rating (the insulating value) if you live in a cold climate; or a SHGC (solar heat gain coefficient) if you live in a warm climate and want to maintain a cooler home by blocking the sun's rays.
- Hang internal doors correctly so cracks won't leak air. Attach a door sweep or draft excluder to correct gaps at the bottom of doors rather than replacing them. Keep doors closed between rooms to ensure

heating or air-conditioning efficiently. Turn off heating and cooling units when no-one is home.

- A garage door is a huge source of wasted energy if left open. Check that the door fits correctly; don't leave it open longer than necessary. During warm months, use a window or ventilation fan for warm air to escape rather than opening the garage door. If you're replacing a garage door consider an insulated door for energy efficiency.
- Install glass doors in front of your fireplace, instead of using a screen, to prevent all your heat escaping up the chimney. Doors are also safer, especially if you have pets or young children in the house.