



NEWS - OCTOBER 2012

Should You Look Past a Dated Interior?

Not all properties look good at first glance, but that doesn't mean you should cross them off your list right away.

When you're looking for a home to buy, it pays to have a bit of foresight. Looking past a dated interior can save you a considerable amount of money if you're willing to put in some hard work to fix the house up yourself. There are a myriad of ways in which you can update a home, including:

- **Replacing flooring** - Old carpets can make a home feel stale but if there are hardwood timber floors underneath, you can give the property a new lease on life by ripping out the old carpet and polishing up the floorboards. Whilst this can be expensive, it will almost certainly add value.
- **Painting walls** - Painting interior walls is the easiest way of making a home lighter and brighter. If you do it yourself, you could achieve a new look and feel for minimal costs.

- **Updating the kitchen** - Benchtops and tiles of the 70's can be ghastly, but there are options for painting these. You could also update old tapware and appliances or install a new splashback.

- **Updating the bathroom** - As with the kitchen, a bathroom can easily be updated by painting the tiles, or by updating the tapware, basin or toilet.

- **Look at the lighting** - Old light fittings and light switches can make a place feel much older than it is. However, you will need to call an electrician over to help you replace these.

Looking past a dated interior could potentially save you thousands of dollars. You can either update the interior as you go and capitalise on the potential of the property, or use the money you've saved on other things.

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Home Design Trend for Spring- Bright Colours!

This spring it's all about colour in the home – whether you're buying new appliances or painting a feature wall.

Brightly coloured furniture and home accessories are all starting to make a comeback in modern homes, and whether you're renovating or just re-decorating, you can take on the new trend.

Over the past few years, neutral colours in homes have been popular, and they continue to be a good choice when it comes to investment properties, however you can add colour to your home in a number of ways without having to make permanent changes.

For example, if you're a renter and you can't make any changes to the walls themselves, then it's best to add colour to your furniture and accessories. Think citron yellow or fuchsia pink cushions, or tribal patterned rugs and textiles.

If you're a homeowner you could go all out and choose bright shades to paint on your walls. But if you don't want to risk having to re-paint when the next trend comes around, then you may want to stick with classic coloured wall shades. Another option is to buy wallpaper or decals that can be taken down when the next home design trend comes along.

Adding colour in your home can be a great way to brighten it up for spring, and it will help make your home feel more festive as end of year celebrations come up too.



Don't Forget to Buy Your Pink Ribbons!

October is Pink Ribbon Month, a month when Professionals Real Estate offices from around the country unite to help raise much needed funds for breast cancer research.

A contribution is made to the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF) for every home sold through us, and during Pink Ribbon Month we ramp up our fundraising efforts by selling Pink Ribbon merchandise.

Due to our group's collective efforts we have now raised in excess of \$1.9 million for the NBCF and thanks to community support this number keeps on growing. But whether you purchase your pink ribbons through a Professionals office or elsewhere, the only thing that matters is that you go out and buy your pink ribbon this year, because every dollar counts.

Buying a pink ribbon is about more than raising money though; it's also about showing support and helping to raise awareness for the women and men in our lives who suffer from this terrible disease.

Hopefully we're getting closer to finding the cure and when we do it will be because of the support that has been given to help organisations like the NBCF.

If you would like to purchase any Pink Ribbon merchandise, or make a donation to the NBCF then drop into your local Professionals Real Estate office or visit nbcf.org.au, and help us get a step closer to a cure.



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