

LORNA'S PICKS

INTERIOR DESIGNER LORNA GROSS, *DESIGNERS TODAY*'S GUEST EDITOR IN CHIEF, SHARES A FEW OF HER FAVORITE LITTLE THINGS



"I love entertaining around delish food. (It's my Louisiana roots.) A gorgeous table scape with stunning napkin rings gives any place setting an instant lift. I am also obsessed with decorative place card holders — they always make guests feel valued and special."

"Decorative ginger jars and shapely vases check all the boxes for me, and they don't require flowers to appear complete."



"I'm all-in for function, so well-designed drink tables and attractive boxes (where remotes and pens can hide) will always get my vote. A super cute drink table can also give a room character."

"The best bookshelves tell a story so framing and featuring personal items (like actress Butterfly McQueen's first paycheck from "Gone with the Wind") help speak to what the owner values."



"Ornate jewelry inspires many aspects of my design and I enjoy highlighting special pieces, like these antique Tibetan amulets, by framing them or placing them in acrylic boxes."



"I seem to have a thing for figurines. When I see a great one at an antiques or accessory shop, I buy it (since it doesn't take up much warehouse space) and wait for the ideal client and project. Sometimes it's hard for me to let them go, though, because those animals and people become my little friends."





"I have a special painting my niece gave me that just brings me joy each day. **Art** is a critical aspect of adding interest, style and depth to a space."
 — Ron Woodson, Woodson & Rummerfield's

"Art truly brings the soul to a space by setting the tone of the room. In this case, the **gallery wall** from a show house at the historic Wattles Mansion in Hollywood represents the old and the new, evoking an unexpected feast for the eyes that completely draws you into the space."
 — Jaime Rummerfield, Woodson & Rummerfield's



"I am a **tea** lover... My favorite tea is Earl Grey, picked up from my many years of living in London. The essential tool to a great cup of tea is a favorite tea cup or mug! Whether I am relaxing or working, my Earl Grey is always present in my favorite cup. And, I am French so a French porcelain tea cup is a must!" — Marie Burgos, Marie Burgos Design

"I love **something unexpected** or totally unique, reflecting the personality of the homeowner. This bespoke beaded table, created by artist — and my daughter — Peyton Hayslip, was a must have for this client, who was up for a crazy, fabulous table. I am also partial to small sculptural art as it is always a great conversation starter!" — Sherry Hayslip, Sherry Hayslip Interiors





"I love **trim details** of all kinds — a small amount of contrast piping on a piece of upholstery, a tape trim on the edge of a lampshade, wood or plaster trim applied to a room's surfaces. They add texture and create more structure to the room by delineation of space. I also commission custom lampshades for all of my projects. This way I can add color and pattern to a surface almost always left white. These little touches can be the most memorable and show that the designer saw it through to the end. — Joe Ireland, *J.D. Ireland Interior Architecture & Design*



"Plants, plants, and more plants! **Plants** give a space life and texture. It's also addictive — the more plants, the better!" — Taniya Nayak, *Taniya Nayak Design*



"A space is not complete without **books**. I love a stack by the bedside, a rotating selection for the coffee table, and, of course, bookcases full of them! We love books so much that we work with our clients to understand their interests and stock their libraries with selections that reflect them." — Uma Stewart, *Uma Stewart Interiors & Lifestyle*

Passionate About Scent

SOME DESIGNERS FEEL SO STRONGLY ABOUT THE ESSENTIAL FIFTH SENSE THAT THEY DEVELOP THEIR OWN



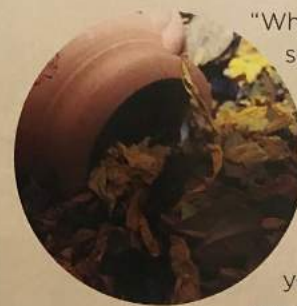
"A signature scent adds personality to a room and, when lit, lends a sense of ceremony to even life's smallest moments. I launched my candle line because I could not find anything on the market that represented my most vivid scent memories. All of my fragrances

come from personal experiences — take Daily Chai, our most popular fragrance. I'm known for my daily chai habit. The smell is divine and I spent almost a year trying to capture it in a candle." — Uma Stewart

"A candle is a simple object to bring intimacy, romance and relaxation all at once in your home — the jar itself can be a beautiful tabletop accent. My candles come in unique ceramic vessels — I work with artisans in Martinique and France, two



places where I have roots; I was born in Paris. Walking into a house that smells like home because of a distinct delicious scent makes me happy! Bird of Paradise, which combines frangipani, jasmine and orange, is my favorite." — Marie Burgos



"When decorating a room, scent is important to the experience. I put Santa Maria Novella Pot Pourri in bowls at entry ways. This mix of buds, leaves and flower petals, their traditional fragrance for over 300 years, is an elegant home fragrance, and when it dries, it can

be burned as incense and smells even more divine. We also customize candles with Le Labo — the fragrances are to die for." — Jaime Rummerfield

Original quotes may have been edited for grammar and brevity.