



DESIGNER'S WALK

By RICHARD HOWLAND

For This Designer, It's Always... "Good To Be Back Home Again"

How does a successful designer want to live? Not much differently from the rest of us.

Says David Landy ASID CID, "Home is something you create over the years as a place you never want to leave. That's becoming especially true in these times. Home is the one place in the world I really would rather be. I advise my clients to invest in the marvels of their home because it's where they spend most of their lives." (Landy is the incoming President of the Metro New York chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers)

A visit to the Landy home on Long Island reveals an inviting, lived-in, convenient family environment, right down to the entertainment controls at one's fingertips. "Home doesn't happen all at once, even for me," he says. "It took four years to make our house (a four-story 1920s vintage Dutch Colonial) a home. I started with a legal pad full of ideas and chipped away a little at a time. The reality of a project like this is that the process is not like reality TV where lumber and labor are pre-ordered and ready to go."

"To me, home should be casual and not stuffy, right down to the drapes and blinds," he says. Starting in the dining room, he notes authentic army tank camouflage material (from Desert Storm) used as drapes. Angle irons

attach a mitered closet pole to the wall. Landy stapled the “camo” material to the pole then cut it with scissors so it hangs as a drape. The whole process took just over an hour and a half.

Wallpaper (from Papier Pient in New York) is a washable craft paper (like a paper bag), hand-screened with a dull sheen using an old magnolia branch pattern in brown, white, peach and lavender to balance the darkness of the drapes and to make the dining room cozy. The table is olive ash burl featuring two bronze cats cast in the ancient lost-wax method. The light fixture is from Spain finished in rusted metal and antique glass with angels cast into a medallion in the ceiling above. The armoire is hand-crafted in Mexico with intentional splits, knots and warped doors. The effect is darkened, warm and casually unique.

On the floor is 17-year-old tongue-and-groove oak parquet flooring (Hartco® by Armstrong), one of the first things Landy did after acquiring the house. The old floor was ripped out, new plywood base installed and the pre-finished strips, each with 4 parquet sections, were glued down. He’s maintained the floor with a buffer and a wax which darkens the area and retains a lived-in look. The floor took a day to install with a carpenter, and it flows out of the dining room into the hall and off to the living room/den.

“The living room/den is a good example of simple layout with a couch and two chairs, although the room has accommodated parties for 30 or more people. The seating plan is for the immediate family plus one versus the airport waiting room look,” he said.

The fireplace surround was built out 18” to accommodate bookcases and an entertainment center which services virtually the whole house with Internet, multi-media and hi-fi sound. The mirror around the fireplace is done in bronze for warmth, versus the traditional cool silvery finish.

On the parquet floor of the living room/den is a hand-made wool rug from China. Landy changes rugs about every six years or so to change the look and feel of the room with little further effort. “That’s the value of not having a trendy design. It lasts and lasts. Your best value is to purchase classic styles and quality. This eliminates the need for constantly redoing your interiors because of passing trends or wearability issues.”

“This room is where we live. Our baby was brought up here, and the dogs (Flash, a wire-haired terrier, and Bobby, the apricot poodle) were always welcome. We often could not get a seat on the sofa! We worked from a scaled floor plan and electrical schematic with a list (albeit a long one) of things to do. Decorating this room without a design plan would be like boating without a compass,” he says. “You’d never be quite sure where you were going.”

These days, for the Landys, it’s hard to go on vacations. “We love our home.” 🏡



David Landy
ASID CID



CLEANING TIPS

By JOE DENMAN

Joe Denman is a floor covering expert, having been in the industry for nearly two decades. He's worked with every type of floor covering, served as an advisory council member for major manufacturers, been in demand as a guest speaker and directed clinics throughout the industry. Joe recently was certified as a carpet cleaning technician by the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning, and Restoration Certification.



EVEN THE MOST DURABLE CARPET CAN QUICKLY LOSE ITS LUSTER, TEXTURE AND APPEARANCE IF NOT CARED FOR PROPERLY.

Carpet's worst enemy is soil. Defined as any foreign matter and far more than common dirt, soil is comprised of solid particulates, liquids, hair, skin cells, oils, pet dander, food and beverages. And those are just some of the things that make their way deep into our carpet's pile where they attach to the fibers and cut, abrade or otherwise change the appearance of your carpet. Cleaning can give carpet a new look again. Once carpet is worn, no amount of cleaning can make it look new again.



STAINMASTER® carpet Madison in Peristeel by Masland

CLIP AND SAVE

TOP 5 EVERYDAY CARE FOR CARPET TIPS

1. Porch and Entrance Mats

Catch dirt long before it has a chance to reach your carpet. Floor mats capture abrasive dirt particles which can make your beautiful carpet look dull and dingy.

2. Vacuum Regularly

Proper vacuuming is crucial. It removes particles missed by entrance mats as well as other household dirt. You'd be amazed at the soil which blows through window screens and falls off your pets. This everyday soil can actually shorten the life of your carpet. (Change the bag when it is two-thirds full!)

3. Household Chemicals that Damage Carpet

Most stain warranties describe most household foods and beverages they cover. Few list chemicals that can destroy your carpet. Topically applied acne medication, tile, toilet and oven cleaners, chlorine bleach, swimming pool chemicals, pesticides, flea collars and plant food are common household products that can permanently damage your floor.

4. Clean up spots and spills.

Spots and spills can easily turn to permanent stains if not cared for properly. Cleaning immediately after the spots and spills occur will help ensure easy removal.

5. Professional annual cleaning

Carpet manufacturers and fiber producers agree that carpets should be maintained by the consumer on a routine basis to minimize soil build-up. They further agree (and often specify in their warranties) that periodic professional cleaning will enhance the performance and overall longevity of your floor.

Our homes are built to live in and our floors are designed to live on. It is a wonderful combination, but sometimes life gets a little messy. It's OK! Carpets today are designed to handle life's little problems. Stain-resistant carpets became a reality in the 1980's and continue with many improvements. Follow the steps below and you will be able to preserve the beauty of your flooring for years to come.

CLIP AND SAVE

TOP 5 FIRST AID FOR CARPET TIPS

- 1. Remain calm!**
Most spots and spills can be removed easily from today's stain-resistant carpets. The key to effective spot removal is cleaning the area before it has a chance to permanently stain the carpet.
- 2. Remove excess material**
Use a spoon or spatula to remove any material on top of the carpet before it has a chance to soak in to the pile. Use a wet-dry shop vac for extreme spillage.
- 3. Use a neutral or mild cleaning solution**
Do not use bleaching agents or other caustic solutions to clean your carpet. Usually, a mixture of 1 cup warm water with 1/4 teaspoon of dishwashing liquid will suffice for most household spills. Allow about five minutes of soak time for this solution to work.
- 4. Blot, Blot, Blot**
Using a clean white cloth or towel, rinse and blot-dry the cleaning solution with clear, warm water. Continue to rinse until there is no longer a transfer of the stain to the towel. Blot only! Resist the urge to rub excessively. While this aggressive method seems logical, it can actually permanently damage your carpet. Gently working toward the center of the spot will avoid further spreading.
- 5. Drying the carpet**
Excessive long-term moisture can damage binding materials that help keep the carpet fibers in place. After the spot or spill has been removed, it's time to dry the carpet. The use of white paper towels over the area will help absorb any residue. Weight the paper towels with a non-staining items such as glass cookware.

The Institute of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration Certification (IICRC)* has created a national standard and reference guide for professional carpet cleaning. In doing so, it has established the five principles of cleaning that are subscribed to by their members, manufacturers and Certified Firms. These five principles should be included as part of the carpet cleaner's service. Beware of cleaners who don't offer or who charge extra for these services. When looking for a reputable firm, make sure they subscribe to the following...

CLIP AND SAVE

TOP 5 PRINCIPLES OF PROFESSIONAL CARPET CLEANING

- 1. Dry Soil Removal**
Up to 70% of the soil in carpet can be removed, in its dry state, by the use of professional quality vacuum equipment — before any cleaning solutions are applied to the carpet.
- 2. Soil Suspension**
Soil suspension occurs when soil is separated from the carpet fibers. Professional carpet cleaners apply solutions to the carpet to break soil down and emulsify other soluble soils.
- 3. Soil Extraction**
With dry soil removed, it's time to extract remaining suspended soils. While there are five primary methods of carpet cleaning, virtually all carpet manufacturers recommend professional hot water extraction. This method allows for the extraction of the soil and cleaning solutions by rinsing with hot water, generally by a truck-mounted extraction unit.
- 4. Grooming the Carpet Pile**
Grooming assists in the drying time of the carpet and allows for the carpet to have an appearance free of swirl or "wand" marks in the pile. Grooming will also provide uniform distribution of carpet protectors such as Scotchgard™ by 3M or Teflon™.
- 5. Drying**
Often times, the first question consumers ask of carpet cleaners is about drying time. The standard set by the IICRC is that drying should occur within 6 – 8 hours, however, drying time must not exceed 24 hours. Drying longer than these standards presents a variety of problems such as delamination and can create an environment for the growth of mold.

GUIDE

REFERENCE GUIDE TO STAIN REMOVAL

Stainmaster®	www.stainmaster.com/carpet-care/stain_remove_guide_index.jsp
3M Scotchgard™	www.3m.com/us/home_leisure/scotchgard/carpet_stain.jhtml
Wear-Dated®	www.weardated.com/pages/warranty_care/cc_stain_remove_guide.aspx
Anso® nylon	www.ansosmartcare.com/main/stains/stainhome.cfm
Mohawk	www.mohawk-flooring.com/floorcare-emergency-waterbased.asp
Shaw	www.shawfloors.com/FloorCare/CarpetCare/CarpetSpotRemoval.asp

*For more information about the IICRC: www.iicrc.org

Joe Denman is Vice-President of Carpet Weaver's Floor Care and is an IICRC Certified Carpet and Upholstery Cleaner. He is also an IICRC Certified Floor Technician. (Carpet Weaver's Floor Care is an IICRC Certified Firm. Visit www.cwfloorcare.com).



CABIN FEVER

Susan Arnoldy Hansen's dad had a small cabin in Minnesota where the family would vacation growing up. As the children married and had their own families, it became clear with people sleeping on pullouts and on the floor that a larger retreat was needed.

Unable to add to the original which had been expanded seven times already and with no where else to go with it, they scouted out a new one, about 6,000 square feet, built on Gull Lake in Nisswa near Brainerd, Minnesota, by a commercial builder. It featured then a master suite on the first floor, bedroom, bath and billiard room downstairs for his son.

"It still wasn't big enough, but we loved it," says Susan, a 31-year member of the American Society of Interior Designers. In the three years since owning it, the family has doubled its size to a sprawling 12,000 square feet. One large addition was put on after a vacant adjacent lot was bought and split with the next door neighbor.

The original master suite became her dad's, aptly named "Eagle's Nest." In the addition on the first floor, two more Masters were built, one for Susan and her husband, called "Cheetah's Lair" and one for her brother and his wife called "Antelope's Savannah." Both are named after the carpet in each room.

On the bottom level, besides a few pull-out sofa beds where kids can sleep in the billiard table room, there's a girls' room called "Beaver's Lodge" with two queen beds and a boys' room called "Bear's Den"

with three custom made extra-long bunks. One bunk has a full on the bottom under a single bunk in case they want to use the room just for an adult couple. There's also an apartment on that level called "Logger's Quarters" which originally served the caretaker for Susan's late father and now to accommodate a single couple. The whole cabin can accommodate six couples, each with a private bedroom and bath.

Much of the furniture is custom made, and much of it comes from Texas where Susan runs her business, Susan Hansen Interior Design. Her favorite is her own bed of hand-carved twisted bedposts with an upholstered leather headboard with nail-head trim.

The family has named the "cabin" Eagles Ridge in honor of the eagle who hung out on the property as the cabin was being built. The name is on a hand-carved plaque hanging over the driveway. 🦅



Clockwise from top left, The "Bear's Den," the boy's dorm/bedroom (sleeps 6). It includes a Fairmount-Cocoa-Beach nylon waffle pattern, another bunk, a novel one-over-two twin-over-full bed for when guest couples come to stay. In the "Antelope's Savannah" room, above, is 2018 Antelope from the Couristan Royalax Wild Asia Collection in wool; Susan says it is also available in nylon with a slightly pink cast. The headboard is an iron gate which took six men to lift into place. Below is an authentic Texas cowhide over real maple in the first floor entry. Below left, is the "Eagle's Nest," designed for Susan's late father, featuring a green-and-red plaid from Burtco with a hint of khaki to complement the wood tones. At left is the downstairs living room for the adult children with a maple laminate which came with the house. It turns out to be a great choice for this lake lodge, standing up well to the tracked-in lake water and sand.

