



INSITE INTERIORS

Spring 2009

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INSITE INTERIORS WEBSITE

www.Insite-Interiors.com

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Dear Friends,

The first signs of green grass are finally appearing in Minneapolis, thank Goodness!

Our latest adventure has taken me to Cuba- what an amazing country. Although not easily accessible for Americans, the Cuban people welcomed us with enthusiasm and hopes of future relations between our countries. It is an island lost in time with 1950's Chevrolets and Spanish colonial architecture. Havana is surprisingly clean and almost devoid of billboards and marketing due to their aversion to capitalism. We may not care of each other's government, but I hope in time we can get beyond our jaded and outdated perspectives toward this beautiful country. I have many photos and stories to share if you care to know more.

Welcome spring with some fresh improvements to your home. Call me if you have a project on your to-do list!

Warmest Regards,
Sharon Allemong

[Be sure to visit our UPDATED WEBSITE with new photos and information!](#)

Designing with our Pets in Mind

Our pets are part of the family, especially if they live indoors. So how do we design a stylish home that doesn't feel like we live in the doghouse? Thoughtful selections on flooring, furniture and design will help us live harmoniously with our fur children.

On the floor:

- Hardwood, bamboo or ceramic tile floors are best because they are easy to clean.
- Carpet is usually a magnet for fur, dander, stains and odor. However, it is warmer and safer for pets who can't get traction on slippery surfaces.
- If you choose carpet, select a low-pile without a continuous loop in a similar color to your pet.
- Consider FLOR tiles that can be pulled up for cleaning or replacement.
- Vacuum often.
- Avoid cork and vinyl/linoleum floors that can scratch easily.
- Keep nails trimmed short to avoid scratches and carpet pulls.

On the furniture:

- Select fabric with a multi-color pattern in a similar color to your pet.
- Avoid denim, corduroy, velvet, flannel and loose-weave chenille.
- Consider leather or outdoor fabrics in polyester and acrylic that have a smooth texture.
- Micro-suede is good with non-shedding pets for cleanability and durability, but difficult to remove fur.
- Consider furniture with metal legs for dogs that still chew.
- For bedding, use duvet covers with a tightly woven fabric for ease of care.
- Avoid drycleaning chemicals that can be harmful to pets.

Kitchen design:

- Consider toe-kick drawers that stow food bowls in the space between the cabinets and the floor.
- Devote one cabinet with large pullout storage for food and treats.
- Give your pets their own space in the kitchen since we spend so much time there.

One thing is for sure- they WILL throw up or have an accident at least once! They will also gravitate to the most comfortable and expensive piece of furniture you own. Consider treating upholstery and carpeting with a system like Fiber-Seal to keep your interiors looking their best. It is well worth the investment and I can connect you to the experts.

Insite Interiors
6328 Falcon Court
Edina, MN 55436

952.922.9140 tel
952.929.1194 fax

sharonallemong@insite-interiors.com
www.insite-interiors.com