

Designer Perspectives on *Trends*

For 2015 and years to come.

We asked five designers about the trends they are incorporating in their designs for 2015. And, we got them to share some ideas on how you can incorporate upcoming trends into your home décor too.

IT'S A NEW YEAR WITH BEAUTIFUL NEW TRENDS.
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LOCAL ARTISINAL DESIGN

This bedroom designed by Courtney Lake shows off his trend of locally sourced design.





Catherine-Lucie Horber

The beauty about styles and trends is that they are an ever ending cycle. Often when it comes back it is with a BANG! Either bigger and better or just worse than ever. I am happy to see some of the evolving new trends.

Often working with clients I can show them things that are so beautiful and in style like a bold beautiful wall paper for an accent wall, or stunning patterns on drapery fabrics and I will hear things like; "Wallpaper and drapery

remind me of something that was in my grandmother's house!" I know what they are referring to but the current trends happening are not the same thing. The reality is that it is not necessarily the item that classifies a material or finish as being in style... but really its application, content, balance and how it is being used.



Designer Catherine-Lucie Horber is the Principal of Royal Interior Design Ltd. The firm provides decorating, staging and renovating services for both small and full scale residential projects throughout the GTA. Known for creating elegant & affordable design solutions tailored to suit different lifestyles.



**DESIGN TREND: WALLPAPER**

Wallpaper is one of the trends that has come back with a huge BANG! And now more than ever as we are seeing them be bolder with added rich velvet textures, shiny metallics, even crocodile skin and leather textures! The bolder the better it seems.



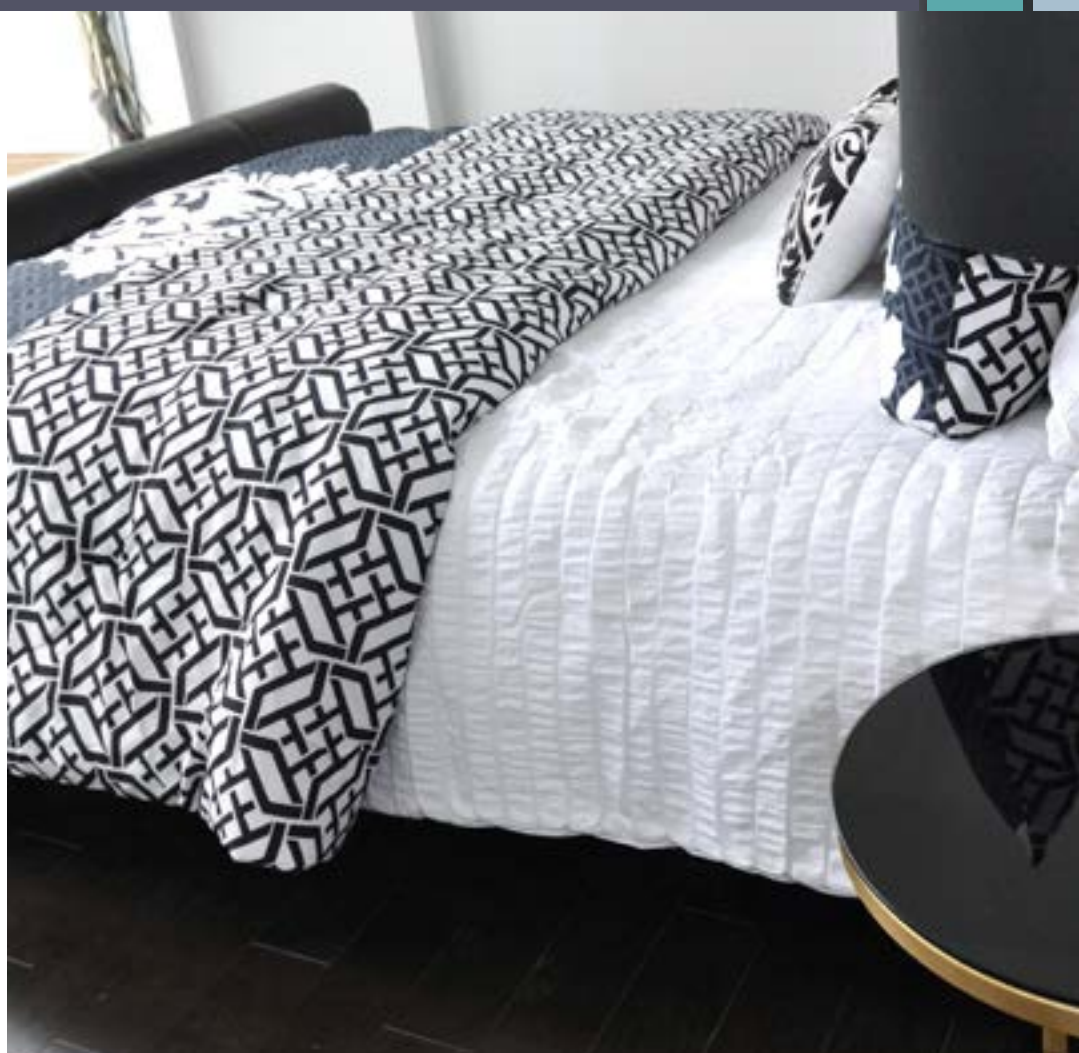
One beautiful carefully chosen textured wallpaper can be a stunning focal point to any room and will be using wallpapers throughout 2015!

Colorwise, I see the continuation of rich dark navy blues... You can see dark navy in many big design staple stores, in new fabric collections from major manufacturers etc. It is rich, classy and hard to go out of style. It is often combined with another major trend lately the use of gold!! Yes it is back lots of gold, either in chandeliers, in stunning accent lamps, decorative vases, or even many accent and coffee tables will have gold mixed with white marble.

Large bold prints and florals on fabrics are coming back with a large influence in accent pieces and I plan on working with this trend with use of my accents such as big pillows, drapery or accent chairs in spaces.

A surprisingly widely used theme being seen everywhere in the form of either artwork, fabric, vases or decorative accessories has been the use of bones, skulls, bull heads and horns. They come in many shapes, textures and colors. I have already started working these elements into my current design projects.

Asian influences are also seemingly strong with chinoiserie patterns in fabrics, vases, bowls and various other applications. Buddha statues are conducive to be placed in both casual and elegant interiors.





COURTNEY LAKE

The Bay Area has always been an incubator for innovative and artisan home goods designers. I have found that more and more clients are asking for us to search for local artisans. Much like the slow food movement of the last decade, I believe that more of the general public is becoming aware of the amazing craftspersons in their own backyard thanks to meta shopping sites like Etsy or CustomMade.com. I recently designed a space for a client where we were given the

mandate of sourcing without a 50-60 mile radius of the home's location. Because of this parameter, we really dug deep and found some amazing products and artists that I am now quite happy to have on my preferred vendor list. In particular, we were agog over the glass designs from SkLo, the luxe textiles of Jesse Black, and the wood craftsmanship of Blue Collar Built.



Known by many as lively, stylish, and inspired, Courtney Lake is proud to be one of the premier interior designers in the San Francisco Bay Area. Specializing in creating functional and beautiful spaces in the residential market, Courtney also does his share of home staging and photo styling. He is an expert at flawlessly meeting his clients' needs while designing superb spaces with timeless style mixed with a healthy dose of humor.

DESIGN TREND: LOCAL

This room designed by Courtney Lake utilizes materials sourced within a 50-60 mile radius of the home. This gives the space a personal touch and reflects the local environment.





Since our Northern California project, we have continued supporting small local artisans in most of our designs. We are in love with the sheeting from Crane & Canopy and the innovative use of materials from company Oxgut Hose. We have used Crane and Canopy bedding in the majority of our projects - it's a great price point for a superior product. It sells itself to our clients plus how often will the CEO of a company hand deliver a product to a client? They will and clients appreciate that kind of service and it goes a long way in building a rapport on all sides.

When clients ask how they can support local artisans, I suggest they do it one of three ways:

(1) Visit your local art school or art festival and purchase from the young artists. You can find amazing large scale artwork for a fraction of what a more mature artist costs. I was lucky enough to find emerging painter Heather Day early in her career in a similar way and have been a huge proponent of her work.

(2) Look at web sites like CustomMade.com which connects artisans to clients. It's a great way to find local talent and create a collaborative process to get a product made.

Last, (3) I encourage clients to visit their favorite retail stores. I have often found amazing resources by visiting my favorite menswear stores -- remember they have a whole visual team that is tasked with finding interesting items. Think of it as a bonus for buying that sweater you have been eyeing!





SANDRA NASH

No matter what the current trends are, one thing will hold true – a space should reflect your personal taste and comfort.

Home décor trends reflecting the growing amount of people that are downsizing. As a result, their large/oversized furniture doesn't fit their new, smaller space. Requirements are for multi-purpose furniture for our multi-tasking world, with lots of storage. Indoor looks are being carried outside to the newly discovered, all important seasonal rooms that used to be called backyards.

Homes need to be more flexible and functional than ever before. Design has evolved so that all the rooms in a home are being utilized for at least one purpose, if not for several.

Long gone are the living rooms that are never lived in. For example, seating being added to the master bedroom for reading or a sideboard in the dining room that converts to a desk or entertainment unit.



Sandra began in the interior design business in 1990. Making A Scene is the realization of her passion for design. Sandra's diverse experience includes being a Designer and motivational speaker/writer. She has appeared on Home and Garden TV. Her interior design practice specializes in decorating high-end homes, for high profile clientele, as well as upscale bars and restaurants in Toronto. She also does Builder model show homes. She is passionate about interior decorating, her natural creative talent.

So what does the average consumer find tasteful and comfortable for 2015?

- Acrylic and brass furniture (acrylic great for small space)
- Gold and Copper Accents everywhere
- High drama lighting as focal points
- Diamond shapes in everything
- Minerals/ Rocks
- Turtle shell, and coral motifs
- Multifunctional furniture with storage
- Lots of detail and embellishment. For example, contrast piping, trims, tufting, and intricate studding.

I'm seeing 3 distinct color ways trending for 2015:

Reds

This is the next big thing that is already hot in Europe. Mulberry, Bordeaux accented with wheat and gold. These reds will be seen in accent furniture, rugs and accessories.

Blues

Still remain strong. Mid-toned ocean hues (lavender reflections of early morning to the jades/teals of the deep oceans). These themes anchored by grey limestone and accented with emerald green or mustard yellow.

Browns

Metallic, organic colorways that revolve around natural pigments. Bronze, copper and charcoal accented with fur, feathers and leather.





PAUL SEMKULEY

2015 trends can easily be incorporated into a strong monochromatic base design. Many of my clients automatically jump to beige when they hear the word neutral but, there are a lot of natural neutrals being used as a solid base for decoration.

This is not merely beige, but interpreted in soft blacks, greys and creamy whites as well as browns, mochas,

taupes and natural linen. Choosing a neutral base (if you already have one you're a step ahead) allows you to introduce many of the hottest color trends for 2015 - Cobalt Blue, Sour Green with Blues, Ochre Yellows, Renaissance hues and soft pastels will continue to dominate. Olive greens are also making a strong influence this coming year.



Re:source lifestyles, created by Paul Semkuley, is an interior styling and decorating firm, combining the love of art, fashion and design, dedicated to creating beautiful, distinct and uniquely personal interiors. Focusing on fresh lifestyle based designs, re:source lifestyles will infuse your personality and understated luxuries, to inspire you and provide the comforts to enrich your daily experience of living.



To easily stay on trend, I try to bring in the stronger colors in decorative accessories, like pillows, throws and small beautiful object, keeping the foundation of the furniture neutral to give it the longevity to its simple understated beauty.

Pillows are one of the easiest ways to change up your room. Look for pillows that have zipper closures so that you can change them out seasonally and add a down fill insert, to bring it the softness and quality of custom pillows. You can also add trendy colors in your accessories and window treatments.





KRIS BRIGDEN

We're seeing a break from predictable interior selections & finishes in 2015. With more options beyond the standards and durable finishes making a comeback, homeowners are doing their research and comparing price points with longevity. I'm hearing clients question wood flooring and the abuse it will take vs. the investment.

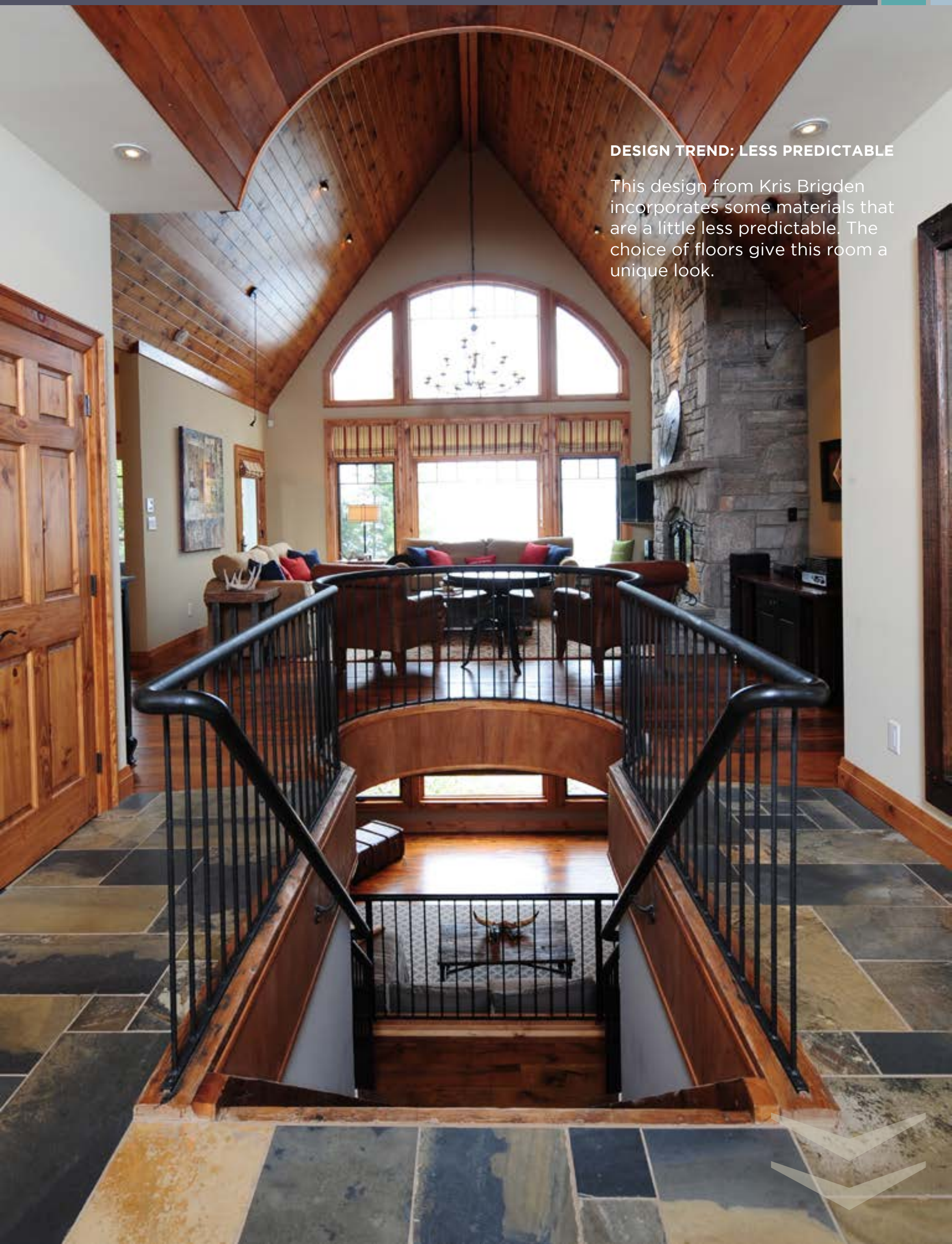
Vinyl flooring for example is no longer the nasty material you remember from childhood. It's almost impermeable, ranges in quality, thickness, appearance, application and price point. Vinyl plank flooring mimics wood so well now that most people are hard pressed to see the difference.



Kris Brigden is the Principal of Kris Brigden Designs Ltd - an award winning multi-disciplinary interior design firm specializing in custom interior decorating and design for residential clients. Kris and her team at North Muskoka House are dedicated to creating exceptional, distinctive, and uniquely personal interiors that reflect the lives personalities of her clients.

DESIGN TREND: LESS PREDICTABLE

This design from Kris Brigden incorporates some materials that are a little less predictable. The choice of floors give this room a unique look.





Not to be left out, kitchens are also benefiting from this trend too. Cabinet-makers are now filling orders for full MDF (Medium Density Fiberboard) cabinet doors when the kitchen design calls for paint. Traditionally shaker doors for example, are constructed with a raised wood panel and an MDF center, and then painted.

Why the change to these new materials? A couple of reasons. First, they are very durable. They withstand humidity and temperature changes that promote cracking and warping of both the door and the paint. They are also cost effective when compared to their traditional counterpart.

I have recently installed a 9,000 sq/ft home with vinyl plank flooring. The vinyl plank sample was shown to the clients along with samples of solid wood, engineered, and laminates. Their first choice was the vinyl, based on appearance. Then I told them it was vinyl. It's an impressive house in its own right, but first time visitors always comment on how beautiful the flooring is.

Before you choose that predictable option for your home, do your research, look into alternatives that truly fit your lifestyle and not the Jones'. Weigh out the pros and cons and go with the biggest bang for your buck.

