



2 MASTER THE SUITE LIFE

When considering a new master bedroom suite, homeowners should take into account how they use their bedrooms, says Pam Yost, interior decorator and owner of Grand DesignGroup in Columbus. Is it a space for rest and tranquility? Should it be romantic, relaxing or creative? Will you also be using it for office work or hobbies?

How homeowners use their bedrooms determines what furniture they will need, and what feeling they'd like their rooms to invoke dictates the style and color of their furniture and bedding. Yost recommends creating a bedroom that is calming, private and reflects personal taste, but remember for resale purposes that buyers will be looking at the quality of the master suite as well.

"It should be a space that nurtures you and gives you that kind of 'ahhh' feeling," she says.

Yost recommends starting with the bed. If

there's only one splurge to be had, she says the bed should come first. After all, it is the focal point of the room, not to mention the area where comfort matters most. She is seeing a big trend toward upholstered beds.

"They convey a comfortable, softer, inviting look," she says.

The selection of suite styles and bedding has ballooned in recent years, whether homeowners are looking for a platform bed, an antique masterpiece or an entire suite made from sustainable materials. Luxury isn't out of range anymore thanks to discount stores and the Internet.

"There's no reason not to have a beautiful bed in any price range," Yost says.

But if a bedroom suite just isn't in the budget, Yost says bedding alone can transform a room. She also recommends paying attention to little things like including beautiful bedside lighting and a comfy chair for lounging.

