

How to choose the right rug

Rugs and carpets are the ultimate decorative accessory; it gives warmth and personality to a space. But choosing the right rug can be a tricky business; the right one can finish a space to perfection, while the *wrong* one can make a room feel awkward or unfinished. But with so many styles, colors and materials to choose from, how do you know which one is right for you? It's actually easier than you think. Here are a few ground rules to help you find the right area rug for your space:

Right styles

Two of the biggest factors to consider when choosing a rug that you will love to live with are your lifestyle and your own personal style. Will you be placing your rug in a high-traffic area, such as a family room or hallway? Do you have young children or pets? If yes, you will want to choose a rug that's easy to clean and durable, like cotton or synthetic. A patterned rug in darker shade will be able to hide dirt and stains in high-activity areas.

If you want rug for a more decorative purpose, luxurious viscose, wool and leather rugs are available in rich designs and colors. Recycled fabric rugs can be opted by the more environmentally aware users.

Make sure any rug or carpet you are considering eventually complements your style sense.

Right color

If you have color and pattern going on in your space, you might want to stick with a single-color, either a neutral or a shade which complements your existing furnishings. If you want a patterned rug with many shades, add in furniture and accessories that coordinate afterwards. Dark, rich colors help define a more intimate space while lighter colors make a smaller space appear larger. Bright colors such as yellow, orange or red add warmth while cool colors like blue and green create calm.

Right pattern

Give yourself permission to go bold with patterns. Mixing patterns within the same color group will add depth to your décor. While selecting complementary colors to pair with your rug just make sure to select the non-dominant color within the design.

A brightly colored or boldly patterned rug can just be the right step if you want to lift up your space. Bold designs and large patterns in a small room can make it look larger.

Right texture

A room with a combination of different textures feels layered and rich, and an easy way to set this tone is by giving attention to the texture of your rug. Let your existing décor guide you, and aim for contrast. Soft fabric with something smooth and hard while a sleek looks great with a longer, fluffier pile.

Right comfort

If you prefer a softer feel, then natural fibers such as wool and cotton are for you. If you want a deep, lush, pile, you can get a similar feel from synthetic fibers. Natural fibers such as jute can be surprisingly soft underfoot, but it's not as warm as a woven rug.

Right size

An inaccurately sized rug can throw off the ambience of the entire room, even if the furniture is amazing. A rug should fit the size of your *seating area* and be as large as possible within it. The ideal situation is when all the legs of furniture are on the rug, but front-legs-only is a common practice.

Right location and purpose:

It is critical to keep in mind the type of activity and traffic that will take place in the room. Durable rug is needed for high traffic areas, while soft rugs can be used in the low traffic rooms. Rugs made of wool are timeless and lasting, but they are more likely to get stained. But, they can be designed intricately which makes them great for bedrooms and living rooms. Contrarily, rugs made of synthetic fabrics are more affordable and easier to clean. Making them great for high traffic areas.

Right furniture

It is important to match and mix the textures and tones of your rug with your existing furniture. The key is to create balance instead of clash or compete for attention. Your rug should be a focal point for your room, so sometimes it's best to start with it when designing a room.

Right material

Fabrics can be broadly classified in two parts:

1. Natural fabrics:

Wool and silk are more widely used Cotton, jute, hemp, etc., are more affordable option for people on a budget. They are durable and have a long life.

2. Synthetic fabrics:

Polyester thermoplastics, Acrylic, Polypropylene, Nylon, etc. They are much cheaper option and durable. They are widely used now due to the popularity of outdoor rugs.

Right cost

Rugs are no longer considered a luxury which only a few enjoy. There are a wide variety of affordable options available in the market.

Rugs which are made of Cotton, jute, hemp and chenille are affordable and durable. Synthetic fibers are designed to mimic the look and feel of wool and other expensive materials.

Right approach

If you are planning on decorating any area, it is best to build a start from the floor up. Set the ambience and color scheme by selecting the rug first. Ultimately the rug or carpet you are considering should be able to match your style. Finally, trust your instincts.