

# Real Life Design

## This is how we do it.

**Window coverings that go up and down rather than stacking on the sides** are better protected from being stepped and pulled on. These creamy linen soft fold shades filter light, provide privacy and pull up and out of harm's way.

For cleaning ease, stain resistance, durability and a true suede-like feel, **nothing beats this high quality ultrasuede** from Lee Jofa.

Don't want your kids sitting on your sofa arms? **Don't choose styles with oversized arms!**

Sofa and chair skirts **stain quickly from dirty shoes or shedding pets** – so consider having an exposed leg on your upholstery. Most manufacturers offer this option.

**A large, heavy table, centered in the seating area is really all you need** and a bottom shelf gives additional display and storage space. The grained and painted finish camouflages everyday wear and tear. **Don't clutter the top with piles of art books unless you're actually reading them.** Leave room for a snack instead!

**Nothing lasts longer or looks better than a well-finished hardwood floor.** Three coats of hi-gloss water-based finish followed by a final coat in satin finish helps prevent the floor from yellowing over time. The slight sheen stays clean easily with a slightly damp mop and a little ammonia.

**Good lighting makes even modest rooms impressive; without it even impressive rooms look modest.** Functional, but dressy lighting was added to the room without a single table or floor lamp. Three inch gold-toned low voltage lights, installed around the room's perimeter, add drama and impact to art and accessories while five inch matching down lights provide soft, diffused lighting over the seating area.

**A highly scrubbable paint, like Benjamin Moore's AquaPearl,** can withstand abuse from messy hands, muddy dogs, scrapes and scratches better than a flat paint. It's slight pearlescent sheen reflects light back into the room, and it's perfect for decorative paint treatments.

Arm chairs borrowed from the adjoining dining room have lasting good looks with a heavy-weight, tightly woven fabric – **heavily treated for stain resistance before being sewn on to the chair.** Even the black accents on the chair frame get **touched-up with a simple black, permanent ink marker!**



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