

House Calls

By KATHLEEN HOM

Homeowner

Angelika Pollak

Neighborhood

McLean

Problem

"I'm desperate for help," Pollak writes in an e-mail. She and her husband have lived in the same home for almost 30 years, and they use this 16-by-14-foot living room daily to watch TV, listen to music and read. But they've always been at a loss about how to decorate the space. It's full of leftovers and hand-me-downs, which don't fit the couple's modern tastes. They'd like suggestions on new seating and window treatments.

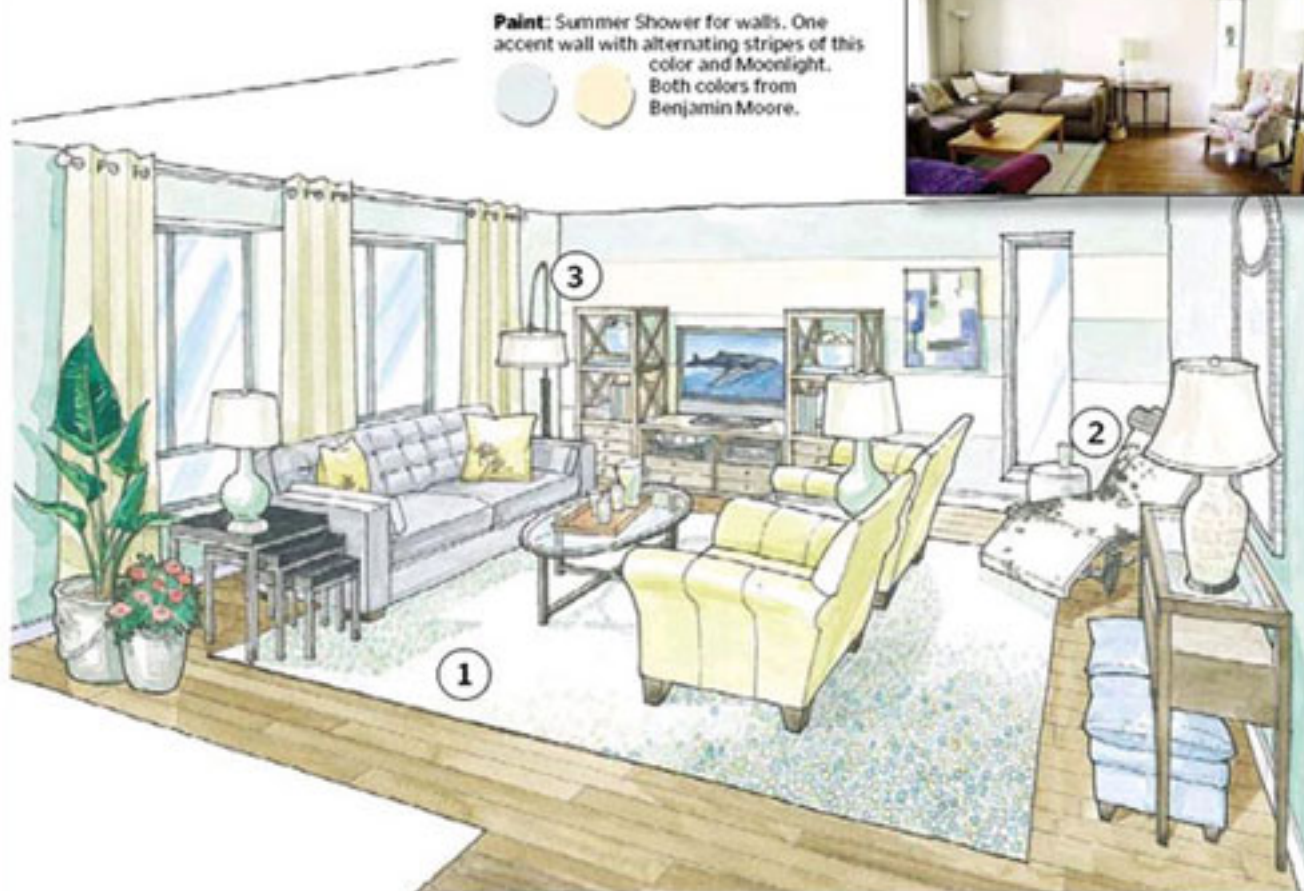
Designer

Gary Miller of Gary Miller Designs in Arlington, 703-931-8204 and garymillerdesigns.com.

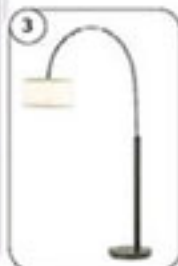
Suggestions

Proportionally scaled furniture will make the space seem larger, along with floor-to-ceiling draperies. With smaller furniture, there's also more space to create two seating areas: one for solo reading and a larger conversation area in front of the TV. Ottomans for extra seating and plenty of table space make the room conducive to entertaining.

GET A CLOSER LOOK See other recommendations for this room in a photo gallery at washingtonpost.com/housecalls.

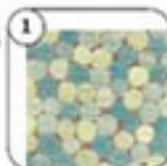


Paint: Summer Shower for walls. One accent wall with alternating stripes of this color and Moonlight. Both colors from Benjamin Moore.



Light the entire space. Jaden Aqua ceramic table lamps by Ashley Furniture are on the end tables (www.lampsusa.com). Arc bronze touch switch hardback shade floor lamp (\$280, www.lampsoplus.com).
Soften and elongate walls with draperies that span ceiling to floor. Grommet twill panels in Butter (\$60 each for 96-inch, www.ballarddesigns.com). Wood and metal hardware by Studio with Spun Metal finials (\$55 each for two or more, 86- to 120-inch rod, www.icpennyc.com).
Accessorize with pillows and art. Chocolate flowers on yellow accent pillows (\$25 each, www.pillowdecor.com). "Beale Street" stretched canvas print by Fara Bell (\$270, www.art.com).

Set plenty of seating in front of the TV. Infusion sofa in Sky Blue (\$699, www.haverfys.com). Anchor the seating with Liora Manne Pom Pom rug in Ocean from the Gallia collection (\$1,600 for 9-by-12, www.rugsdirect.com). Alden three-piece entertainment center houses the TV and organizes stereo equipment (\$1,397, www.icpennyc.com).



Tables provide extra surface area for books, food or drinks. Modulus contemporary end table is between the club chairs (\$315, www.accent-furniture-direct.com). and Jon contemporary cocktail table in Onyx metal finish is in the middle of the room (\$439, www.allcoffeetables.com). Both by Johnston Casuals. Klubbo nesting tables (\$70, www.ikea.com).

Create a reading nook by placing a lounge chair beside a window. Alphaville Lasair leather lounge chair, covered in Pony Hide (\$1,594, www.zfurniture.com). Convex drum table (\$159, www.westelm.com).



Tuck additional seating underneath a console table and mirror. Durham Sky Blue ottomans (\$200 each, www.roomstogo.com). Blake console table (\$299, www.homedecorators.com). Penley Arch ornate mirror (\$459, www.nofustmirrors.com).