



歲末

Year end



居家佈置是一種愉快的享受，花費的多少依各人條件和品味而定，有的能夠以有限的費用給自己一個舒適的家，是一種藝術。

無論你現在住的是學生宿舍，或是豪華住家，每天生活於其間，就是一個人的家，也就是一個人的生活大本營，如果每天心情愉快地住在裡面，是一種享受和福氣。

中華文化中心年度募款餐會是社區華洋人士的一大盛事，參與捐款的熱心人愈來愈多，今年中心的風雲人物包括有亞裔社會的驕傲姚明，多位工商企業界人士，他們每一位都有成功的事業和對社會熱心服務的參與感。

聖誕節是一個感恩的時刻，年終歲末，回首過去一年，展望來年，是最值得深思的季節，祝福讀者圓滿順利。

Home decorating is a joy. The affordability and tastes of individuals determine the amount spent on home decoration. It is an art for those who can furnish a cozy beautiful home within the budget. Whether you live in students' hostel or luxury homes, the place you are living at everyday is the core of your life—if you are happy at home, you would have joy and bliss in life.

Fund raising by Chinese Cultural Center is one of the major events of Chinese American communities. There is increasing number of people participating in the fund-raising. This year, the popular icons of Chinese Cultural Center include Yao Ming and the business community. These people are successful in their career and active in serving the society.

Christmas is a day of giving thanks. 2006 is soon to give way to 2007. We sincerely wish you a happy holiday and happy New Year.

總編輯 鄔逸卉
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e報導雜誌是一本園地公開的刊物，歡迎讀者與我們做雙向交流。本雜誌提供專欄作者電子郵件信箱，讀者可以來函與作者互動；也可在ebao.us網站發表意見，在網站上“關於e報”的欄目設有“意見箱”，備有讀者投書表，或者參與“社群討論區”分享心得，讀者們有任何關於電子報或e報導雜誌的建議，都歡迎發表看法，我們會公開在網站上。對地產或投資理財有關問題，也歡迎來函詢問，我們會請專家作答，解決您的問題。

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室內設計裡的窗簾、 地板、擺設品

Interior design -- curtains, flooring and home decorations

文/鄔逸卉

Translate by Varence Tan

居家生活氣氛舒適，會使每一個日子充滿愉悅。

調和氣氛的高手——窗簾



窗簾，為家裡增加柔和的氣氛，有了它，居家舒適之感隨即產生。

做了十多年窗簾加工的Mary說，窗簾的價格從便宜到昂貴相差極大，端看自己的預算有多少，用有限的費用也可以有很好的效果。

Home sweet home brings bliss and joy to your everyday life.

Expert in harmonizing ambience – curtains

Curtains can generate soothing ambience and coziness to home.

According to Mary, who has over a decade of experience in curtain works, the price difference of curtains can be rather substantial between the cheap and expensive. However, one can still get good result of curtain works within the budget.

Mary works together with many American interior designers. Walking in her curtain store, I see a lot of skilled workers sewing a big pillow – at the final touch; it is virtually perfect with no sewing joints.

Against the backdrop of booming real estate development in Houston, Mary has taken many orders on open house. The jobs include curtains and bedding.

Mary的窗簾店和許多老美室內設計師合作，走進工作坊，牆角邊放著堆積著的布料，老練的工作人員正在用手縫著一個大枕頭，完成之後，看不出接縫。

隨著休士頓房地產蓬勃發展，Mary去年接了許多樣品屋工作，除了窗簾，還包括床上的被子，枕頭，每個房間不同的色調，店裡精工縫製，讓設計師沒得挑剔。

美國設計師對色彩調配十分有心得，送到Mary店裡的窗簾，經常是高級住宅區的住家，布料都由設計師提供，整組完成之後，百萬豪宅的氣勢更顯得奪人。

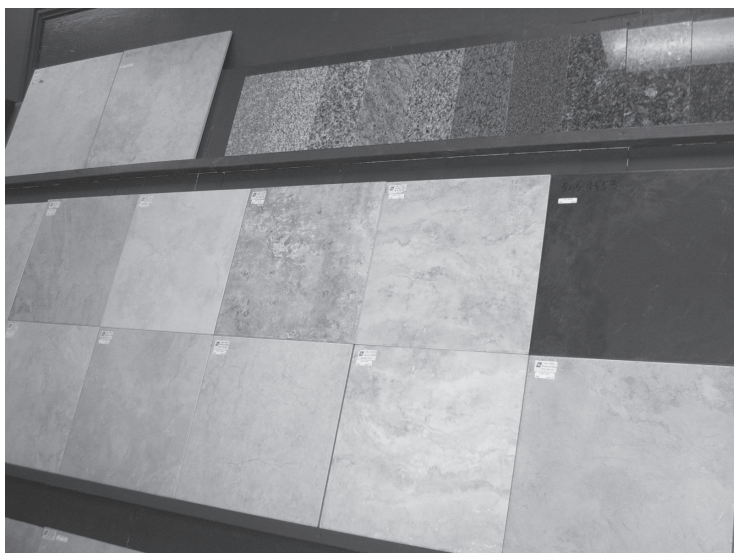
在Mary的經驗裡，老美捨得花裝飾的錢，把家裡佈置美侖美奐，有的人經常在家裡宴客，讓朋友欣賞美麗的居家環境，有品味的人會擺上古董家俱，除了豪華還帶進了不俗，其實，這種做法很值得，因為也許過段時間，屋主會以高價出售，花費的心思和金錢都值得回來了。

老中近年來有的家裡也開始注重家庭的裝潢，肯花些費用在上面。

如果預算有限，也可以做最簡單的設計，用一根桿子掛上適宜的窗簾也可以有不錯的感覺。

襯托各種家具的功臣——地板

有一個溫暖漂亮的家，是每個人的理想，特別是在



American designers are very good at color combination. Most of the curtains at Mary's curtain store are from high end residential unit and designers fabrics. Based on Mary's experience, American are willing to spend on home décor. In fact, this is a smart and worthwhile way of taking care of a house. A house can be sold at good price to cover the money and time spent on the décor. In recent years, a lot of Chinese Americans have also focused on home décor and do not mind spending on it.

If you think you have budget constraint on good curtains, do not fret -- because you still can get simple design that generates good result.

Buddy in projecting beauty of home furnishings -- Flooring

Having a cozy beautiful home is the dream of everyone in United States. It is also one of the American dreams. Sometimes, one may feel that buying a house is not so difficult; but doing the home décor can be a challenging task.

Floor Design Center has been operating in Houston for over ten years. The person in charge, Annie suggests that 5%-10% of the property price is recommended to allocate for renovation expenses.

Flooring, carpets and tiles -- which are the most ideal interior materials?

According to Annie, this is a subjective question, each of these materials has its own uniqueness as well as pros and cons.

美國，擁有住家是完成美國夢的一大里程碑。也許應該說，買下一個房子也許還不是最困難的事，要把家裡佈置成優美有格調才是考驗。

休士頓的利達行經營十多年，負責人Annie表示，通常她建議使用購買房價的百分之五至百分之十，作為裝修的費用，甚至全新的房子也用這筆錢，把新屋不盡如人意的地方修整到合於理想，住進去也開心。

地板、地毯、瓷磚到底那種是最理想的室內建材？她說這是見人見智的問題，各有特色和優缺點。

永遠被消費者喜愛的木質地板

木板是永遠不褪流行的材料，卅年前木板是最受歡迎的材質，一度被地毯取代，隨後又有瓷磚。



Long time favorite of consumers – plank flooring

Plank flooring has always been a classic material. Thirty years ago, plank is the most popular building material. However it was later taken over by carpets and tiles. Wood prices have always been high, subject to environmental restrictions. Currently, we have the so called synthetic plank flooring -- the processed wood has the same color and appearance as the real wood. However, there is much price difference between the two.

The owner of Floor Design Center, Annie is having this synthetic plank flooring for her office. The material is good and durable for twenty years. With the advancement of the current technology for wood processing, the material would not have deformation due to temperature difference.

As the production standard varies, the density of the wood determines its quality. A plank of good quality has the high density with solid substances.

Density determines the quality of the carpets

The quality of carpet also depends on its density-- thick carpets may not always be good. Flooring is said

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木板的價格一直高踞不下，這是受到環境限制，樹木被使用殆盡，而且以前使用實木地板材質上很浪費，只能取用中心的一段，其餘都丟棄。現在所謂的仿木地板，將裁下的零碎木頭經過加工，整合製作，將外形、顏色都做得像木板而且使用起來也沒有差別，但價格相差很多。

這位地板專賣店的老闆娘辦公室舖得就是這種最便宜的材料，Annie說，現在這種材料做得很好，可以使用20年。

時下木板加工技術進，不會因為溫度的差異而變形。

因為製作水準的差別，木板的好壞最重要的是密度，好的木板緊密度高，份量重。

流行的潮流永遠是循環，現在當紅的木質地板是呈現出高低不平的表面，深沉的色澤，這是多年前木質地板的特色，現在用人工做出相同的質感和顏色，所追求的就是這種自然的感覺，光著腳走在上面有種不一樣的感受，有著一種與身體相惜的親切感。

to contrast the entire home interior. Though being the owner of design floor center, Annie suggests that we should not spend too much on the flooring.

The Floor Design Center has tiles from around the world. Italy ceramic tile can extract water and thus eliminate coldness on the surface. Asians tend to favor light colors while Americans prefer dark colors.

The real wood is made of solid wood. While it is elegant for the room but it is not suitable for Texas climate due to its high humidity. Modeled wood and synthetic wood flooring do have good results.

Home decorations add finishing touch to home

We do not really need a lot of home decorations,

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地毯品質好壞在密度



地毯的好壞也在於密度，不是厚就好。

地板的作用是襯托整個室內，它不能鋒芒太露，一般人進入室內會被吸引的可能是漂亮的沙發，或是好看的裝飾，視覺焦點隨後才會轉到地上，所以儘管她自己開地板店，她也建議不要花太費用在這個部分。

她的店裡有來自全世界的地磚，意大利的石英磚已經可以把其中的水分抽離，也就是踩在上面沒有那麼冰冷的感覺，東方人比較喜歡淡色，老美較喜歡選擇深色，將感覺沈澱下來，耐髒，容易保養。

實木地板完全用木頭製作，厚實沈重，舖在房間美觀高雅，但是並不適合德州氣候，因為濕度太高，不易保養。合成木和仿木地板都有不錯效果。

sometimes we just need to choose the right one and add the finishing touch of the home.



Lily Shen has been in home decoration trading business for more than a decade. She says that Americans like to decorate their houses with a group of home decorations.

Q:Please tell us about the trend of home decorations for this year.

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畫龍點睛的擺設品

居家擺飾不在多而在精，飾品具有畫龍點睛的效果。

經營飾品十多年的康介莉指出，老美喜愛裝潢家裡，他們會把好幾個成組的擺飾在一起。

Lily: Black and white is the theme of this year. Even the crystal chandelier is in black too. Now, people are back to nature -- flowers, insects, fish, seashell are the main design theme. Display items are also center around the animals, plants and flowers which projects the natural flavor.

We have a series of crystal chandeliers that looks somewhat similar to corns and grapes. Americans love chandeliers. Chandeliers come in a variety of sizes. Nowadays the bedroom will also be decorated with chandeliers.

A must have fireplace decoration

Q: When come to home decorations, which area is the most important place that not to be omitted?

Lily: Usually, fireplace is the visual focus of a home. Fireplace signifies the heart of a home – always warm.

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問：請介紹今年飾品的流行趨勢。

康：今年流行黑、白兩色。燈組、甚至垂掛的水晶吊燈都以黑色為主。現在的人又回歸到大自然，花鳥虫魚、貝殼都是圖案取材的主題。擺設內容也以動物、植物、花卉，裝點出自然的氣息。

我們有一組水晶吊燈，從外形來看與玉米有點相似，另外有一組綴飾以葡萄形狀垂在最下端。美國人喜歡吊燈，現在有各種不同尺寸，連臥室裡都會用吊燈做裝飾。

不可或缺的壁爐裝飾

問：居家佈置那些地方是最不能省略而具有畫龍點睛的效果？

康：通常壁爐是家裡視覺焦點的地方，上面一定要做些擺飾，對老美而言，這裡是家裡象徵溫暖的地方，喜歡圍爐而坐，談天說笑。

問：一般而言，飾品的流行時間有多久？如果過了潮流這些飾品該如何處理？

康：通常一個週期大約有三、四年左右，老美的處理方式是把不再新式的擺設淘汰，車庫拍賣或送人，再買新的擺設。站在中國人傳統惜物的心理來說似乎有點浪費，但是對美國人來說，在那段時間已經享受過它所帶來的美感，達到物盡其用的原則，何況美國有很多舊貨店可以收納這些東西。

Q: Generally, how long would the trend of a home decoration? How do we deal with the decorations/ornaments of passing fade?

Lily: Generally it is about a period of three to four years. American would get rid of out dated decorations through garage sale or given away the stuff. I have some American friends who would exchange their Christmas decorations at the end of year – this is indeed a good idea.

Q: How much should we allocate on home decorations and accessories?

Lily: Based on interior designers' suggestions, we should allocate about 5% to 10% of the property price for home decorations expense.

Q: Please talk about the style of your shop.

Lily: Our style is traditional. This year, lamp holder with the shape of hyacinth appears to be the best-selling lamp holders. Hyacinth also incorporates a taste of natural curve and design. Our main feature is the ceramic mosaic in copper table. We are the pioneer in making this product. It has an antiquated shape but with an added modern lines, colors and creativity.

Q: Why do you want to keep this classic style?

Lily: Contemporary art is famous with its lines and simple designs. However, it may soon become a passing fad. On the other hand, classic style would sustain many seasons and remain à la mode.



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我有一些老美朋友，歲末之時，幾家人會交換聖誕樹的裝飾品，這是個好主意。

問：如何分配居家飾品的使用費用？

康：室內設計師建議，使用購買屋子的百分之五至百



分之十的價錢。

問：請談你們店中作品風格？

康：我們的風格是傳統式，但因為這種形式較為耐看，即使這種風格也有流形的趨勢，在傳統中有顏色和式樣的變化。以燈座來講，今年座子以葫蘆形最暢銷，這也是一種自然的線條。

陶瓷鑲嵌在銅的花邊座子上，是我們公司的特色，我們是第一個做出這種產品的公司，形狀是一種仿古，但是加進現代的線條、顏色和創意。

問：為何你們始終保持這種古典的式樣？

康：現代藝術以線條取勝，造型簡單，但是不耐看，我們所走的傳統風格，歷久彌新，時時欣賞，都會有不同韻味。



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