

Time Out

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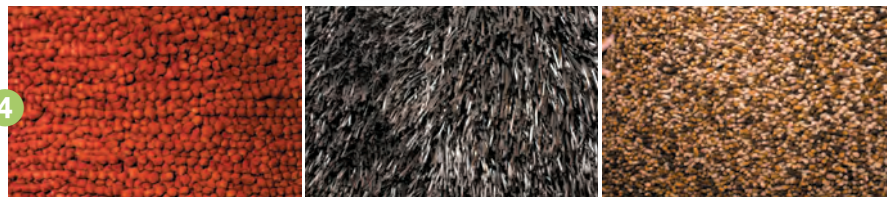
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Home Decor



The Brady Bunch

Why it works We all know the story of the group that somehow formed a family, but the classic theme song failed to mention how the Bradys scored such an awesome house. (Mike Brady was an architect, so he probably designed it—but why didn't he think of giving each kid his or her own room?) The 1970s get blamed for introducing a lot of tackiness (polyester pantsuits, Donny & Marie), but this house was groovy in all the right ways. The open staircase, the backlit colored glass panels and the oven set into the wall are just a few examples.

What the expert says

"This set was all about [late] 1960s modern," says Schwartz—who is no relation to series creator Sherwood, we might add. "There's not a lot of clutter, but well-placed, well-made items." Schwartz says she sees a lot of demand for this style and that dealers at her market often pick up entire living rooms, bedroom sets and kitchens from sellers in Florida and



California and bring them back to Chicago. "The furniture pieces are usually high quality—much of it Swedish-made," she says. "With some reupholstering in new, funky fabrics—including bright, primary leathers—and even staining or painting the wood frames, there are many creative ways to take this look and make it new."

Where to find it Perhaps one of the most famous items in the Brady residence is that horse statue at the bottom of the staircase, and we've found a similar one at Ravenswood Antique Mart (1) for \$185. And you can't go wrong with a little orange—the color has been trendy for the last year or so. CB2 is all about that hue, offering this echo pillow (2) (\$25) and tesselto throw (3) (\$40) in the sunny shade. Another 1970s trend that's back in a big way is shag carpeting. Lewis Floor & Home has a selection of shag rugs available in a variety of colors including reds and browns (4) (\$500–\$5,000).



Gossip Girl

Why it works This addictive drama gets a lot of press for its sexy story lines and just-off-the-runway fashions, but we're always paying attention to what's going on in the background, specifically at the Humphrey family's Brooklyn loft. Yes, they're the "poor" family on the show, but the loft is filled with interesting art, a cool garage door–like room divider and an eclectic mix of furniture.

What the expert says "The *Gossip Girl* set is perfectly modern vintage," Schwartz says. Translation: It takes elements from many eras to create a cohesive look. "Not many decorators stick to one era anymore, with the best ones culling pieces from many different sources—from flea markets to high-end shops and auctions." The Humphrey apartment pairs an expensive Persian rug with a funky re-covered Chesterfield couch, plus modern Knoll office furniture.

Where to find it Get some high-end office furniture, like this Herman Miller Caper chair at Room & Board (1) (\$449), or riff on the distressed exposed bricks in the Humphrey apartment with Urban Outfitters' Trompe L'Oeil floor mats (2) (\$140), which are photorealistic reproductions of painted wood.



PHOTOS: HORSE AND SHAG RUGS, NICOLE RINDA; MIDDLE RIGHT, COURTESY OF HBO.COM