

refine your design project

Before contacting an interior designer, take some time to think about what you want and what you need. The first step in this process is to consider some questions that an interior designer will ask regarding your project:

- For whom is the space being designed?
- What activities will take place there?
- How long do you plan to occupy the space?
- What is your time frame?
- What is your budget?
- Are you relocating or remodeling?
- What image do you want to project?

Also, be sure to consider the positive and negative aspects of the space.



begin looking for a designer

When you're ready to select a designer to work with on your project, the number of individuals and firms to choose from can be daunting, particularly in Atlanta. How do you know if you've chosen a professional designer? In general, you want a designer with the following characteristics:

- Is accredited as an interior designer
- Has experience in the type of project you are doing
- Has demonstrated creativity, talent, and resourcefulness
- Is attentive, responsive, and communicates well
- Has a record of reliability and good work habits

ASID

One way to ensure you are working with a professional interior designer is if he or she is a member of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID). ASID member designers must meet the profession's education and experience requirements, as well as adhere to a strict code of ethics and professional conduct. The ASID appellation after a designer's name indicates that he or she is an accredited designer who has passed rigorous professional scrutiny and testing.

For more information, contact the Georgia Chapter of ASID at 404-231-3938 or info@asidga.com, or visit the ASID website at asid.org.

FEELING OVERWHELMED?

Don't worry. Your interior designer will lead you through the design process. Keep in mind the more information you provide, the more successful your designer will be in meeting your needs and expectations. You may want to reference other visual images (photos, postcards, corporate logos, magazine photographs) or environments that reflect your aesthetic and functional criteria.

"When hiring an Interior Designer, you want to make sure that they are going to design your home according to your style, taste, and personality. Your home needs to reflect your family's lifestyle and be functional for your needs." —JANIE K. HIRSCH, ASID, RID J. HIRSCH INTERIOR DESIGN