

“Vacation” At Home with a Bedroom Makeover

By: Donna Clairmont

Custom Window Treatments & A New Bedding Ensemble Will Transform Your “Sanctuary”

While some people see a bedroom as simply a place to sleep, more and more people are recognizing the “master suite” as a room unlike any others in their homes.

For these people, a bedroom is a sanctuary that allows the homeowner an off-limits place to get away from the world... to slow down the pace and rejuvenate. As master suites have grown in popularity, many of today’s renovated or newly constructed homes not only have an ensuite, but also a seating area.

Regardless of what your bedroom is to you, however, you likely face the same challenges, especially here in the Comox Valley where our shopping options are more limited than in a metropolitan area.

If you’re tired of the limited choices in patterns, colors, and even products at area retailers, then custom may be the way to go to give your room...and yourself a lift for fall.

Rather than a renovation project or the purchase of new furniture, consider window treatments and a bedding ensemble. You may want to add an area rug for another splash of color and texture, and then look at your accessories, such as throw pillows or bolsters, which can coordinate with the windows and bedding.

When going custom, there are hundreds of choices for window treatments. Do you want shades or blinds? If going with blinds, do you want fabric, wood, or plastic? Do you want vertical or horizontal? Room darkening or blackening? Choices, choices, choices.

If shades are more your style, you have similar choices in materials and function (room darkening, etc.), but there are

other decisions, too, which your designer can discuss with you.

For draperies and curtains, do you want solids or a pattern? Do you want sheer curtains and lined drapes? Do you want short ones to avoid going over a wall-mount heater or is floor-to-ceiling more your style? Do you want a fabric valance, and if so, what type?

Do you want your window treatments to coordinate with your bedding or simply be more static and interchangeable with seasonal changes to your bedding?

When you think about your bed, there are decisions, too. Do you want coverlet, a quilt, comforter, a duvet, or a bed spread? Do you want a bed skirt (also called a dust ruffle)? Will you want pillow shams? Throw pillows? Bolsters?

Rather than being overwhelmed by the many decisions that can factor into your bedroom makeover, contact a bedroom specialist who will offer a complimentary consultation and can walk you through the decision process, offer suggestions, and also take professional measurements to ensure everything she’ll sew and/or order for you will fit great.

Remember, custom does not always cost more than retail, but the opportunity to pick exactly what you want is much greater.

So, instead of running away from home for a getaway, now is the perfect time to transform your bedroom with an affordable, easy-to-implement design makeover. When you’re done, you’ll have the perfect place



TYPES OF “BED SPREADS”

- **Duvet**—basically an easy-to-remove and wash “pillowcase” for a comforter or other fill material.
- **Comforter**—a substitute for a blanket in many cases, this “filled” bedding usually does not cover the box spring or the pillows. These are stitched to keep the fill from moving around and clumping.
- **Quilt**—This is usually three layers of fabric: a top quilted layer, a thin batting, and a backing. Quilts are seldom “filled” with fluffy material, and often used as wall hangings, too.
- **Coverlet**—These are usually lightweight and non-reversible, often intended to go over other bedspreads to keep them clean or add another layer of texture.

to cocoon during the rainy months and re-energize yourself next spring.

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