

CHEAP TIPS

Frugal and fabulous

By Lisa Boone, Times Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES interior designers are accustomed to working with big budgets, but that doesn't keep them from thinking inexpensively — for themselves or others. A few admitted to choosing inexpensive design elements for their own homes and shopping at TJ Maxx. While each designer highlights something unique, they are all based on the same ideals: making the most of what you already have and using accessories shrewdly. Here are a few of the designers' suggestions.

Accentuate

"Simply add three to five boldly patterned, bright accent pillows and a coordinating throw to any living room or bedroom, and *voilà* — your room will be transformed in no time and with minimal cost. Be adventurous in your pillow selections. You can always swap them out. Or invest in a recognizable design piece from a store like DWR and make it conspicuous. Then, take a trip to IKEA and pick up some design-oriented pieces at great prices. The blend will create a high-end aesthetic at a reasonable price. This mix-and-match concept is a favorite of mine as well as other famous designers such as Philippe Starck." — Velvet Hammerschmidt

