

DESIGN STYLE—TEACHER'S GUIDE

Have students complete the "DESIGN STYLE" survey and tally their scores. Identify the various design styles: I = Contemporary, II = Country, III = Classic, IV = Natural. Discuss how they feel about being identified as a specific type of person. Do they agree with the survey? Explain that this is a simple means of helping them identify their personal design tastes.

Knowing your design preferences can be very helpful when selecting furnishings and colors for your home.

Have you ever wondered why you feel more comfortable in some rooms than in others? Why doesn't a hotel room feel homey?

If you circled most of your choices in one column, it is usually easier to select accessories that will work well together. If you find that your preference for two styles are almost equal, you can usually combine them for an eclectic look. If you like a little bit of everything, it can either make decorating fun, or torture, depending upon your selection of furnishings and accessories.

Options for this design activity are:

1. Using magazine pictures, make a collage of your design style. Be certain to label the design style.
2. Make a texture board. Include a floor covering, wall treatments, fabric, and furniture style.
3. Discuss what may happen when spouses or roommates have differing design opinions.
4. Using pictures of dinnerware, glassware, and flatware, design a place setting for each design of the four styles described above.
5. Show slides for each design style and discuss the slides as a class. Some examples for each style are listed below:
 I—CONTEMPORARY: bold design in flatware, precious stones set in unique designs, high fashion clothing, Japanese design, tropical fish, science fiction
 II—COUNTRY: country quilts, daisies, tole painting, ruffles, wicker, handmade accessories, antiques, country blue, pink, and yellow
 III—CLASSIC: traditional furnishings, elegant flatware, plantation-style homes, pearls, roses, orderliness, ballet, opera, symphony
 IV—NATURAL: camping, Indian jewelry, pottery, leather boots, accessories from nature, wood furnishings, durable fabrics, natural colors, Native American art work.