

## Stylish Solutions

# Ageless Back-to-School Design

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Round tables from Kmart ship to home, covered with Couture Chateau custom-lined and interlined table cloths, are incredibly functional and multi-purpose.

**3) Chip It.** This is one of the biggest things we tackle when clients ask for what we call “focus space.” This is my design term for highly functional work stations within our design world. I could banter all day about how much color matters in design but suffice it to say, choosing a color palate that speaks to you is one of the hardest and most important things people do, especially when it comes to creating functional work spaces that call you back to productivity.

What do we do? We literally chip it, Sherwin Williams style. There are countless programs out there but I like this one because it is user friendly, quick and not designer exclusive.

How does it work? Find a plant or item that is precious and inspirational to you, get a photo, upload the picture and hover the “chip it” icon over the photo. In no time, a palate is generated!

That becomes our Focus Space Color Guide. It is area specific. By generating a specific color palate for a specific area you will work in, even if it’s only a slight variation on your overall room scheme, when you go to that area you are ready to work.

This fall what will you update? Can you find a space for a small round bistro table that your teen can work on? What about a fantastic drop leaf desk for that retired spouse or in-law who could use some fresh beauty while writing thank you notes or paying bills the old fashioned way. Even stamps look better in a beautiful drawer inside a beautiful desk. Let us know.

And if you need some help creating those focus areas or getting a guest room in order for the holidays, call us. We’re here! Until then, live a custom life!



This clearly labeled box keeps supplies tidy.



Sherwin Williams Chip It App



Ann McDonald, IIDA, NAPO, is the Founder/CEO of Couture Chateau, a luxury interior design firm in Orinda. If you are interested in chatting about your next decorating project, give us a call at (925) 386-0720 – we’re here all summer. For a complete blog post including photos of different work spaces, visit [www.couturechateau.com/blog](http://www.couturechateau.com/blog).