

TIMELESS FORESIGHT

In order to be a successful interior designer, it's critical to see beyond the present to bring a new vision to life. Sissy Yellen of Bloomfield Hills-based Sissy Yellen Living was tapped to use her visionary skills to modernize a lovely 1950s-era traditional colonial that was stuck in the '90s. The homeowners—a family of four with two young sons—loved the Bloomfield Hills home's "perfect location" and architectural style, but they wanted to infuse it with some vibrant New York flair.

Yellen says that her intentions were to offer each member of the family a space to call their own and to give the home timeless appeal. "My goal was to give the home another 30 years," she says. "You need to delicately balance your wants and needs with the reality, utility, and functionality of the future." The designer explains, "For example, older hardwood floors have such character and patina," she elaborates. "It's common and sometimes easier to replace them with engineered wood, but choosing to keep the original flooring and not waste the material, was a responsible decision by the homeowners."