

Rust & Roses Learning

Decorating with Joy | Mini Lesson

START WITH WHAT YOU LOVE

A simple way to begin creating a home that feels like you.



The easiest way to create a home that feels like you is to start with something you already love. A favorite piece gives you a starting point—something that can guide your colors, textures, and the other things you choose to place around it. Instead of decorating by rules or trends, you're building around something that already brings you joy. That's how a room begins to feel personal rather than simply decorated.

What You'll Learn

- Find Your Starting Point
- Notice What You Love About It
- Build Around It

Find Your Starting Point

As you begin styling your area, you don't have to begin with choosing a style, a color palette, or buying something new. Start by looking around your home for items that you love.

Look for any item that you would not be willing to part with, you would absolutely buy again, or simply makes you smile when you look at it. Take your time and consider several items.

Notice What You Love About It

Once you've identified 5-7 items, gather them into one area where you can easily view them all together. As you inspect and consider the items, try to determine what it is about these pieces that make you love them so much.

What do they have in common? It could be color, material, texture, theme, period or era, or a memory that you associate with the piece. This exercise will help you to understand the decorating style that brings you joy.

Build Around It

Choose one of your collected items to use as the starting point for your styling project. Take it to your project space, add it to the space, step back, and think about what you could add that would highlight your special piece.

Once again, be sure to shop your own spaces before planning a Joy Finding adventure outside your home. Continue to identify items that add varying height, texture, material, and color or tone to your styled area. It may take some time to locate all of your perfect pieces, especially if some Joy Finding outside your home is necessary.

When you're happy with the finished design, step back and assess your work. Ask yourself: does it feel balanced; does it feel collected; is it a good fit with the space; and, most of all, does it bring me joy.

Ready to give it a try?

Visit rustandroseshomedecor.com to download the ***Start With What You Love Checklist*** and use it to guide your project.