

Rust & Roses Learning

Decorating with Joy | Checklist

START WITH WHAT YOU LOVE

A simple checklist for creating a space around the things that bring you joy.

1. Find Your Starting Point

- ☐ Look around your home before shopping for anything new.
- ☐ Find 5–7 things you genuinely love.
- ☐ Include things you wouldn't willingly part with.
- ☐ Look for pieces you would happily buy again.
- ☐ Include things that simply make you smile.

2. Notice What You Love About Them

- ☐ Gather your favorite pieces together.
- ☐ Look for colors that appear more than once.
- ☐ Notice materials and textures you're drawn to.
- ☐ Look for recurring themes, styles or eras.
- ☐ Consider whether memories or stories make certain pieces special.
- ☐ Identify the qualities these pieces have in common.

What am I discovering that I love?

3. Build Around It

- ☐ Choose one favorite piece as your starting point.
- ☐ Place it in the area you're styling.
- ☐ Shop your own home for pieces to add.
- ☐ Add varying heights.
- ☐ Mix textures and materials.
- ☐ Consider color and tone.
- ☐ Step back and look at the entire arrangement.
- ☐ Remove or change anything that doesn't feel right.

Ask Yourself – Does it feel...

- ☐ Balanced
- ☐ Collected
- ☐ Right for the space
- ☐ Like me

Most importantly...

- ☐ Does it bring me joy?