



# Top tips for the teen scene

Designing a bedroom for teenagers can be a minefield. Interior designer Liz Cox guides us through the dangers

Moving from crib to first-bed to bunks to full-sized bed, children's bedrooms change a lot as they grow up. Once they move in to their teenage years, their bedrooms should reflect their personality.

### Develop their sense of style

As they become teenagers, your children will start developing their own sense of style and decorating ideas.

Encourage them to get creative by thinking about what hobbies, sports, colours and so forth they'd like to incorporate into the design. It's important that kids have a say in how their room is designed.

### Be colourful and bold

Think large, bold, colourful and graphic for teens. Mixing colours, patterns and textures as well as layering and combining shapes will ensure a less grown-up or formal approach.

### Follow the 123 formula

- 1 Chose one wall colour from the light palette
- 2 Chose two colours from the bright or bold palette
- 3 Use these colours on accent walls or furnishings and don't overlook ceilings and flooring.

### Design for purpose

Teenagers view their rooms as their universe – a place to read, do homework, entertain friends, listen to music, game and sleep, too. So the design has to provide for all this. Add a chair or small sofa, a desk with a chair and lighting, comfy rugs to lie on and blackout curtains.

## Competition

### Win a home colour consultation worth £250

Signature Interiors are master designers and creators of interior design, upholstery and soft furnishings (including curtains, blinds, cushions and any number of other fabric creations).

A member of the Association of Master Upholsterers and soft furnisners, their design studio and workrooms are based in Hurstbourne Tarrant, Hampshire, from where they offer a personal service.

OUT&ABOUT magazine has teamed up with Signature Interiors to offer readers the chance of winning a home colour consultation, including a two-hour visit to your home, colour analysis for one room, along with a written report of recommendations, worth £250.

To be in with a chance of winning this wonderful prize, just answer the following question on the form below, along with your name, address, email and phone numbers to: Signature Interiors Competition, OUT&ABOUT



Liz Cox

magazine, Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury, RG14 2DW, to arrive no later than July 14. For competition rules, please see page 73.

### Question: Where in Hampshire is Signature Interiors based?

If you need help creating a perfect design or soft furnishings for your teenagers' bedrooms, contact Liz Cox at Signature Interiors on 0844 4877171, Liz@



### Signature Interiors Competition Entry Form

Answer.....

Name.....

Address.....

Email.....

Daytime tel. no.....

Tick here if you want to know more about Signature Interiors



### Make it personal

Display things that are personal to a teenager – photos, memorabilia and keepsakes such as concert ticket stubs, bar mats or programmes, or favourite sports team items. Also include accolades like certificates, ribbons or trophies and personal artwork. Create unique showcases which celebrate individual style.

### Invest in quality

Buying quality, classic furniture and beds now that will stand the test of time and will save you money in the long run. Design with an eye on future growth; design closets to accommodate longer-length clothes as your child grows, and purchasing a larger size bed now will see them right through school and beyond.

Don't over spend on trend items

Trend items will be changed frequently as new trends surface. Use on-trend items to accessorise around your classic investment pieces.

### Step up the storage

Neat and tidy is not likely to be on the tip of your teenager's tongue, but you can help with this on-going battle by providing lots of storage units, cupboards, drawers, hanging rails, hooks, boxes and baskets.