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# Mix It Up

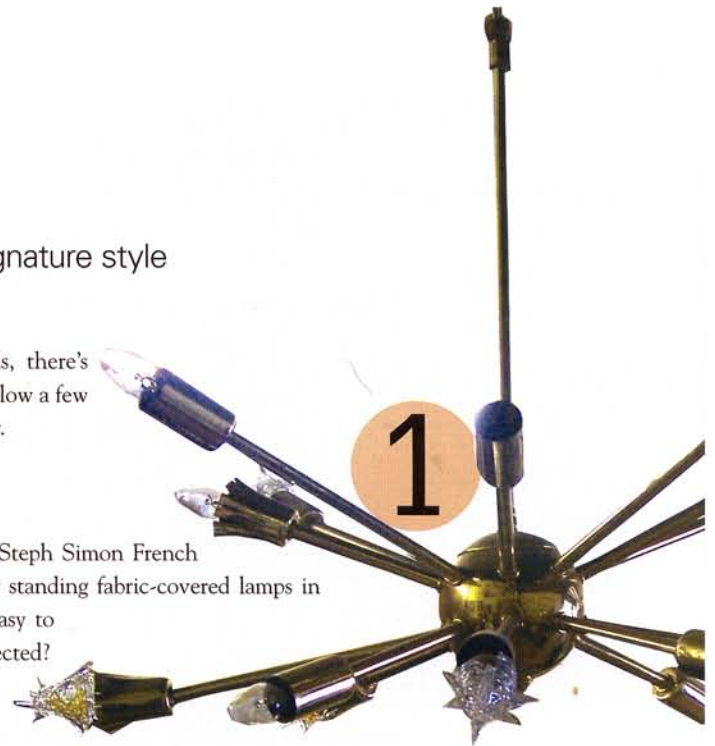
Bring vintage and modern together for a signature style

by Ashley M. Wilborn

Whether you have inherited treasures or modern finds, there's always a way to make them work in your home. Just follow a few simple guidelines to bring the different eras and styles together.

## Lights

"Lighting is the easiest thing to do," says Steph Simon of Steph Simon French Antiques. Individual pendant lamps, like vintage Sputniks or standing fabric-covered lamps in neutral shades, add an eclectic feel for less money and are easy to switch out. Who doesn't have a great lamp waiting to be resurrected?



## Lines

Anything you put together should have similar lines, both Simon and Anne Flaire, his partner who runs Anne Flaire Antiques, agree. Whether it's an Art Deco dresser with very straight lines or a Louis V reproduction dining table with curved legs, mix other pieces that reflect its silhouette.

## Colors

Certain color groupings and patterns are dead giveaways to the era they represent. Unify your old furniture and other pieces with new upholstery and finishes in similar color schemes to signify the atmosphere of the era you choose.

- Grape/magenta/banana yellow: 1980s
- Green/pumpkin/mustard yellow: 1950s-1970s
- Gold/silver/bronze: 1920s
- Paisleys/flocking/flowers: 1800s

## Adaptation

Most countries reuse old things and make them new. Flaire, who is French, has huge glass liquor jars from France turned into lamps. Karen Hott, a local designer, takes her client's international treasures and turns them into art. One of Hott's clients had commissioned a Balinese hand puppet for his wife but it didn't have a home. So, she mounted it on silk and enclosed it in plexiglass. "I wanted their rooms to really be lived in and tell a story," Hott says. Voilà! Instant personalized art.



Photo by Blue Tack Photography, courtesy of Karen Hott Interiors