

# Multi-purpose SPACES

**Leanne Van Niekerk** of LVN Interiors looks into the importance of trends in design and interior design and what we can expect for 2021

Each new year brings new design trends that influence consumers' buying decisions. These trends are long-standing and they develop and change over time. Trends come from consumers' attitudes, lifestyles, needs, wants and spending patterns. The consumer has the purchasing power after all.

Materials, colours, patterns, shapes and styles of a particular season that have a long-term influence on the market are things that are looked at when trend forecasting.

Being a trend forecaster is a skill and if you want the inside scoop you will need to spend some time identifying styles, materials and colours that will be most appealing to consumers going forward.

Earth-inspired colours and natural materials have the potential to remain prominent in 2021. We may also see décor trends such as warm neutral colours like olive, yellow ochre and shades of brown as well as mixing metal with for example wood and stone being used in most spaces.

In terms of fabrics, performance fabrics may still make a comeback. COVID-19 has spurred on innovation in fabrics that withstand the wear and tear of everyday life and are easy to clean.



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Because we are now spending more time at home, creating multifunctional spaces in the home that are suitable for work, school, play, exercise, and more will become more of a need.

More homes will be designed with purpose and functionality in mind. 2020 has seen home owners spending a considerable amount of time at home adapting to a new world of social and professional distancing.

Many people have realised that they need to update or reconfigure spaces. Spending money on your home is an investment, and I would recommend focusing on your kitchen, home office and outdoor living area.

There is a need for multifunctional spaces in the home where we combine work with pleasure and relaxation. COVID-19 has and will influence innovation in home design going forward. 🏠