

MEET THE PRO



Schanè: Interior designer and owner of Olà! Interiors, Schanè Anderson started her company in Johannesburg 20 years ago. After selling her two decorating businesses in Johannesburg, she and her family moved to the North Coast in 2009. Olà! Interiors has since been operating from the Ballito Lifestyle Centre, offering full interior design, décor and project management services from sourcing, through to manufacturing and installation of bespoke items. "We love beautifying homes whilst ensuring it is functional and complemented by service excellence! Our business's speciality is happy clients" says Schanè.



INTERIOR TRENDS ON THE NORTH COAST

According to Schanè more and more people are looking for comfort and 'effortless elegance' in their homes. "Most want their homes to be chic, but also relaxing and functional. They want a kind of 'sophisticated relaxation'."

Interior Finishes:

Correct and selective use of natural woods, wallpaper and beautiful lighting enhances the ambience of any home. Flooring choices are vast, and for coastal homes, depending on budget, natural stone is gorgeous, as is exposed aggregate on polished concrete and certain engineered woods and laminates. Colour trends are favouring soft blues, greys and cool hues – and our favourite - white – is always a winner!

Main en-suite Bedrooms:

The ultimate in personalized living areas is the main en-suite. Everyone dreams of indulgent clean bedrooms with crisp lines and gorgeous white, percale bedding, resembling a 'spa' experience – calm, luxurious, clean and uncluttered. Subtle lighting and extra comfortable seating is recommended. The en-suite, which is "living off" of the bedroom, allows for an added conversational dimension. Generously proportioned baths are treated as feature furniture design items and indulgent purchases are allowed for this special area.

Living Areas:

Integrated living (where the inside combines with the outside as well as blurred functional areas) is predominant and of paramount importance in our daily lives. The lounge or seating area must be intimate with the dining area, which in turn has to link up with the kitchen. Family and friends must be accommodated comfortably when relaxing or entertaining. We place enormous emphasis on lighting - sculptural lighting and or magnificent cluster light fittings are creatively utilized in special areas. Soft, cool, muted colours in living areas follow through to the joinery and fixtures.

Kitchens:

The hub of the home warrants all the

attention it can get and functional, contemporary designs with huge, view-facing cooking islands win hands-down. For those wishing to add a nostalgic twist, we are bringing in the 'vintage' feel with industrious appliances and cooking ceramics. Nostalgia is definitely roaring with strong favouritism towards hand cut crystal glasses and beautiful vintage silver trays and porcelain.



Interior Tips for Coastal Living from Schanè:

- 1 Natural fibres and linens are lovely, but if you can't live with imperfections then know that synthetics wear better for coastal living when upholstering or choosing window treatments;
- 2 Walls: for those collectors - remember glass boundaries limits art so try and keep one or two walls for selected art during the planning stages;
- 3 Remember your home is your personal space and should reflect your personality and lifestyle, not that of the designer;
- 4 Get a good designer in early, and choose someone that you are comfortable sharing "off the wall" ideas with;
- 5 Where possible, keep a similar hard flooring treatment throughout your house, and use loose rugs for acoustics and to soften;
- 6 Fireplaces are wonderful for ambience;
- 7 Have one signature piece, either a piece of furniture or a beautiful light or sculpture, something that isn't in every other house - it can be your 'wow' piece!