

Merri's Background

Her interest in design began as a young girl when she saw a Barbie doll wearing a black glittery evening gown with the tulle ruffle hem and a crystal choker. A doll that glamorous just begged for more stunning dresses and a sophisticated house to live in. This doll inspired her to make lots of doll clothes and decorate various doll houses. This hobby later became a business.

Merri's design philosophy is simple: the home should reflect the personalities of the people who live in it. She believes that a successful design enhances a family's lifestyle. The results should be a home that is comfortable, welcoming and original.

Merri brings a wealth of knowledge to her passion for interior design and historic renovation. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design from Mount Mary College and her original career in Fashion Merchandising began her involvement in design. She works on a wide variety of residential and commercial projects. Her work encompasses a broad range of styles with a specialty in Historic Preservation and renovating and remodeling period homes and house museums.

When she is not re-designing homes, Merri is planning parties and events. Her specialty is incorporating "cheap-chic" items she finds at Goodwill in a room setting or table design. She loves the challenge of discovering creative ways to re-purpose found objects.

Merri's designs have been featured in numerous newspapers and magazines and have appeared on various television programs. In addition, Merri has written countless articles and has been a featured speaker for local and national groups.

Be sure to look for Merri's monthly column under "Ask the Experts" on our website.