

 **Bright Green**

In today's world there is an emphasis on our environment. Terms such as "green" and "eco-friendly", relating to environmentally safe or sustainable products, have become staples of our vocabulary. We are all becoming more and more conscious of our resources and planet.

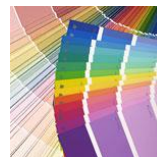
In design and building, the type of products we use and recommend also makes an impact. Bright Design Group is conscious of our environment and implements green products into interior spaces whenever possible. Through our **Bright Green** initiative, we strive to design interiors with function, style and resource conservation in mind. We often consider existing furnishing when designing a space. Updating fabrics on existing furniture and then incorporating other green products will assist as we **recycle, reuse and re-define your surroundings.**

■■■■■ Did you know that *green* could still be *stylish*? ■■■■■

The word 'green' has many meanings. Often it is referenced to color, which may further describe nature and growth. The relationship of environmental harmony and interior space is more important than ever.

When design calls for purchasing new products, Bright Design Group uses resources and vendors which are producing a whole range of environmentally friendly products. The options now provide stylish design thanks to advances in production: *furniture, fabrics, lighting, paints, glass, tiles* and so much more.

You will feel good about your role in preserving the environment as we define your surroundings.





## A FEW GREEN TIPS:

### **Paints, Papers and Finishes**

- Low / No VOC (volatile organic compounds) paints and non-vinyl wallpapers
- Natural earth plasters
- Natural fibers: arrowroot, bamboo, cattail, jute, paper weaves, reed, rush, sea grass, sisal, stones
- Recycled glass tiles and ceramic/stone tiles
- Cork in thin, rolls or square tiles
- FSC or fast-growing bamboo or palm wood paneling

### **Floors**

- Carpets and rug manufacturers are providing green to your home. Look for natural fibers or natural materials like sea grass, wool, jute, sisal, and coconut husks.
- Antique rugs - antique is green.
- Wood floors - make sure that the material is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC); utmost care was taken in harvesting.
- Natural floor coverings such as cork, linoleum, bamboo and concrete.

### **Furniture**

- Furniture makers are also bringing green to your home. These are designated as recycled wood frame or made with sustainable woods like bamboo and eucalyptus.
- Cabinets are also being produced from recycled woods.
- Save wood by updating only the fronts of your cabinet rather than replacing them.

### **Fabrics for Curtains, Upholstery and Pillows**

- Fabric manufacturers are starting to include 'green' made fabrics.
- Natural and organic fibers. Bamboo fabric is one great option and have fast harvest with less pesticides and fertilizer
- Organic wool with proper care can last for generations. Also a product that is naturally flame resistant and absorbs large amounts of moisture.
- When buying upholstery, make sure that they are untreated of chemicals.

### **Accessories**

- Look for the many items made of recycled materials.
- Anything antique or vintage collections.

## PRODUCTS MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE:

**Energy Star:** This government program lets consumers know that certain products (especially appliances) have met EPA and Department of Energy criteria for efficiency. Brands with consistently high rankings include Bosch, LG, Asko and Kenmore. [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov).

**Squak Mountain Stone:** This is a fibrous-cement material made from recycled paper, recycled glass, coal fly-ash and cement. The mixed material is hand-cast into slabs and formed for environmentally-friendly countertops or a table top. [tmi-online.com](http://tmi-online.com).

**Trestlewood:** The company's signature Douglas firs were previously used to hold up railroad tracks across Utah's Great Salt Lake, now recycled. [trestlewood.com](http://trestlewood.com).

**Trex:** The beauty of this unique material, a mixture of recycled plastic and sawdust from reclaimed hardwoods, is twofold: Unlike wood, it won't rot or splinter, and the 20' planks look just like the real thing when installed. [trex.com](http://trex.com).

