



Shavonda Gardner of SG Style used black paint to add drama to her own Sacramento bungalow.
LISA AND GARY ASHLEY OF CREATE + GATHER/COURTESY SGSTYLE

Black makes big, bold impact

Sacramento designer shares tips on going dark

In her own home, Shavonda

Gardner is not afraid to paint it black.

Rich, deep, true black (not dark gray) covers walls, doors, even a bedroom ceiling in her Arden Arcade bungalow. Black creates instant drama and impact, making other details pop.

"Give me all the black!" said the Sacramento interior designer. "I'm the queen of dark and moody. My favorite color is purple, but I can't get enough black."

Gardner liberally uses black in her design work.

"The biggest challenge is people's misconception about what black does to a space," she said. "They think it's going to look like a dungeon or cave or be

depressing or make the room look small. But that's not the case at all. By going darker, you make the space feel very lux, cozy and warm. It's a completely different experience. It feels rich."

Gardner is best known for her blog, SG Style (www.sgstyleblog.com). As a social media influencer, she's among the winners in SN&R's Best of Sacramento issue.

The biggest influence on her design style? "For sure, travel," she said. "I'm really inspired by the way other people live. I'm super inspired by British design; they just kill it. Their style is so bold, unabashed. They have the confidence to design for themselves, not what's trendy or 'in.' I also like Turkey and Morocco."

This month, she's also featured in the 2019 Real Simple Home design house in Brooklyn, N.Y.; Gardner painted the home office black with a stunning floral wallpaper ceiling.

"That's one of my top tips: Don't forget the ceiling," she said. "It's a fifth wall and an amazing opportunity to make an impact in any space. You can paint it with an accent color, use wallpaper or carry your wall color up. It completely changes the space."

Her No. 1 tip: "Before you start any design project, design for your heart," she said. "Think about what you want to feel. It's your home; it's not about what other people think about it. Make it yours."

BY DEBBIE ARRINGTON

This column is produced by N&R Publications, a division of News & Review separate from SN&R Editorial.
For more information, visit www.nrpubs.com

Sacramento Reptile Show

New Location

Sat/Sun Sept 28-29th - 10 am to 4 pm
Pavilion at Cal Expo

Tickets available at the door, or available online at SacReptileShow.com.
Bring this ad for \$1.00 off admission price. Please do not bring your pets to the show.

Come see and touch a live ALLIGATOR from 1 to 2 pm daily

Visit the
Venomous
Reptile
Display

The Largest
Reptile Show
in Northern
California

LIPSCALE
REPTILES

Timberline

LASHER'S
ELK GROVE
SUBARU



Visit SacReptileShow.com