

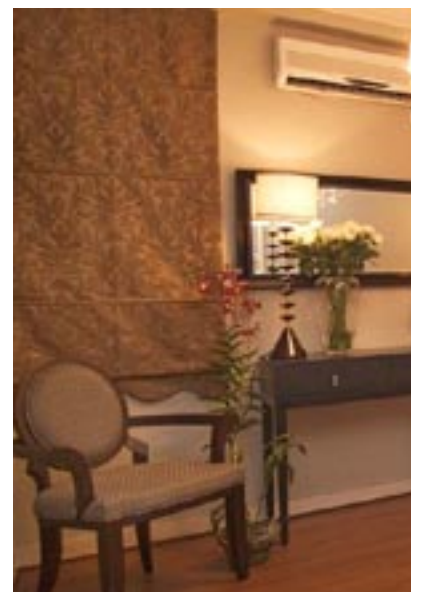
# INTERIOR IDEAS

STORY : Compiled by Racheal Williams  
IMAGES : Courtesy of Eric Leong



## Eric Leong's 8 Simple Steps

Celebrity Designer Eric Leong is an author, columnist, international speaker and product ambassador. Eric with his cheerful, helpful and happy-go-lucky character has gained the title of 'Malaysia's most favourite interior designer', with the tag line of Bold & Stylish which is also the design statement he firmly holds to.



Eric shares his 8 simple steps from his new book Design Fast Forward.

### **Step 1: Identify the Interior Style**

Identify an interior style for the room whether it is English, Zen or Fusion style. This is very important as it will determine the following steps to decorating a room.

### **Step 2: Colour Scheme**

Choose an overall colour scheme for your interior such as earth tone, neutral tone or any hue in the colour wheel from a paint supplier. By doing so, it will help you to determine a bigger picture of the colour scheme.

### **Step 3: Feature Wall**

Choose a wall to be the focus wall and paint that wall in your favourite colour or your 'Feng Shui' colour. As for the rest of the non-feature wall, paint it in neutral or beige colour. By doing so, you are creating the visual depth for the room which makes a small room look bigger than its actual size.

### **Step 4: Furniture**

When choosing the furniture, always refer to Step 1 – The Interior Style. Different interior style matches with different furniture. For example, the English style needs oversized and luxurious looking furniture.



### **Step 5: Lighting**

We use two common types of lighting for the interior, day light (white light or fluorescent light) and warm light (yellowish light or bulb). Day light makes everything look 'flat' and warm light creates soft shadows for an interior thus creating visual depth among display items.

### **Step 6: Soft Furnishings**

After displaying the furniture, the entire interior will usually look 'hard' and soft furnishings are used to soften the look. These include all the window treatments such as day and night curtains. Other soft furnishings include throw cushions, rugs, table runners and wallpapers.

### **Step 7: Décor Accessories**

Without suitable décor items such as vases and picture frames, the interior will look plain. When shopping for décor accessories, always refer to Step 1 – The Interior Style. Do not mismatch the décor items with the interior style.

### **Step 8: Fresh Flowers & Candles**

Fresh flowers bring energy to the room especially when you change them regularly. Flowers of different colours offer different forms of therapy as well. Candles are the most economical warm light source and can make a huge difference when you light it up for a special occasion.

*For more information and to order a copy of Eric Leong's book 'Design Fast Forward' please visit: [www.ericleong.com.my](http://www.ericleong.com.my)*

