

EXCERPT FROM CHARLES FAUDREEE'S COUNTRY FRENCH LIVING

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Excerpt from the Living Spaces chapter of the book.

I believe that first impressions are lasting so it is important to make entries welcoming and inviting. I like entries that provide a clue or a glimpse of what the rest of the home will look like. Whether it's a color theme, the style of furnishings, or a key to a homeowner's precious collections, it's nice to greet guests with that kind of welcome.

Several other rooms of one's home are also considered public spaces ~ places where guests are welcome or entertained. Whether at formal parties or on spur-of-the-moment occasions, people, besides immediate family, spend time in the living room, den or library, kitchen dining room and family room.

For me, the design of these rooms often begins with a pivotal fabric, a dominant color, or one magnificent antique. Just one distinctive piece of furniture, such as a towering armoire, an unusual commode, or a great accessory like a grand mirror or painting, will make the rest of the room seem more important.

One outstanding piece can change the whole plan for a room. I encourage my clients to build their home around a few classic staples, just as you plan a fashion wardrobe.

Charles Faudree with M.J. Van Deventer