

Consumer Decision Making Skill-a-thon



Carpet/Flooring

- Bamboo This type of flooring is manufactured from the bamboo plant. The strands of grass are sliced and shredded, then pressed back together with heat and glue to form flooring boards. Moso is the species most commonly used for flooring.
- Concrete A heavy rough building material made from a mixture of broken stone or gravel, sand, cement, and water. It can be finished in various ways-with colors, stains, and aggregates-and given a textured surface or buffed until glassy. These floors are extremely durable and easy to clean, and they resist water when properly sealed.
- Cork Buoyant, light brown material obtained from the outer layer of the bark of the cork oak. It has excellent thermal and acoustical qualities. It is lightweight, warm to the touch, hypoallergenic, and fire and insect resistant.
- Cut/Loop This carpet carves definition with cut and loop pile. The fibers are bent into little loops or the yarn tips are cut so there aren't any loops. Multicolor effect hides soil and stains making it look great between vacuuming.
- Granite This is a common type of felsic intrusive igneous rock that is formed when exposed to a high heat. Its structure is crystalline, and tiles are very dense and strong. They are predominantly white, pink, or gray in color, depending on its mineralogy.
- Hard Wood This flooring is any product manufactured from timber that is designed for use as flooring, either structural or aesthetic. It is a common choice as a flooring material and can come in various styles, colors, and cuts.
- Laminate This is a multi-layer synthetic flooring product that is fused together using a bonding agent. It simulates wood or stone with a photographic applique layer under a clear protective layer. It is also called floating wood tile in the United States.
- <u>Large Format Tile</u> Flooring that exceeds the average 12 x 12-inch size. They are available in square or rectangular shapes and can be as large as 40 × 120 inches. Two advantages are easier maintenance resulting from fewer grout joints and it gives an open look.
- Loop Pile (Berber) This carpet has a wool like look and rugged loop surface. It wears well and is suited for casual rooms with lots of traffic and activity. Tight loop texture helps hide footprints and vacuum marks. Subtle patterns fit a variety of room styles.
- 10. Luxury Vinyl This flooring differs from standard vinyl flooring in its ability to closely mimic the look of natural materials, such as wood or stone. It accomplishes this by a surface layer that has a very realistic photo-created image, combined with textures that resemble that of the real materials.
- 11. Porcelain A ceramic material made by heating materials, generally including kaolin, in a kiln to temperatures between 1200° and 1400°C (2200° and 2600°F). The toughness, strength, and translucence arise mainly from vitrification and the formation of the mineral mullite within the body at these high temperatures. It can be divided into three main categories: hard-paste, soft-paste, and bone china. A ceramic tile made from a dense feldspar enriched clay and fired at a higher kiln temperature to create a denser more durable tile. It is exceptionally impermeable to water.
- 12. Quartz This flooring is all natural made up of a combination of quartz sand and calcium carbonate. As one of the naturally hardest materials on earth, this is the perfect flooring for commercial spaces that receive heavy amounts of foot traffic and daily wear and tear.

- 13. <u>Reclaimed Wood</u> Lumber that has been previously used for other building projects. For instance, it is often taken from the sides of century old barns or the floors from 150-year-old homes.
- 14. <u>Slate</u> This flooring tile is a type of natural stone which is quarried from the side of mountains or taken from the earth. There are also numerous different types each with their own look and characteristics.
- 15. <u>Textured Cut Pile</u> Fibers with uneven lengths that create a fuller uneven surface. It is exposed to a steam treatment that curls the individual strands, so they stay kinked and curled. Its surface helps hide footprints and vacuum marks.

Curtain and Window Treatment

- 1. <u>Bamboo Shades</u> Environmentally friendly, semi-private textured shades made from natural fibers. They filter light, protect your furniture from fading, and naturally repel a small amount of water.
- 2. <u>Banner Valance</u> A series of fabric triangles attached to a mounting board or threaded on a rod.
- 3. <u>Café Curtains</u> Short curtains hung on a rod.
- 4. <u>Casing</u> A fabric pocket to hold a curtain rod or elastic for gathering. Usually made by folding fabric over twice and stitching, basically a hem with open ends.
- 5. Cornice An ornamental band for covering a curtain rod. It is made of a rigid panel covered with fabric.
- 6. <u>Curtain Drop</u> The length of a curtain window treatment from the hanging system to the bottom edge.
- 7. <u>Drapery Hooks</u> The basic style of this easy to use curtain hardware is a single wire folded against itself one end has a sharp prong, and the other end is bent into a curve.
- 8. <u>Farmhouse Shutters</u> Hinged panels found outside of the window that can be closed for privacy or to keep out light. They can be used on both interior and exterior windows. They have a rustic look and can be made from a variety of materials.
- 9. <u>Finials</u> Materials such as metal or wood that are used as a decorative ornament on the tops or ends of poles or rods such as tent-poles, curtain rods, or other pieces of furniture.
- 10. Goblet Pleats A pleat that is pushed out and filled with curtain lining instead of folded inward.
- 11. <u>Header</u> The extra fabric above the curtain rod pocket.
- 12. Leading Edge Where the curtain panels overlap in the center of a two-way traverse rod.
- 13. Pinch Pleats A style of pleat, usually triple folded, used at the header of curtain window treatments.
- 14. Piping A decorative edge made from bias-cut fabric strips that cover a cord.
- 15. <u>Pleater Hooks</u> Curtain hardware that includes four prongs to form a triple pleat plus a back hook to hang the curtain panel.
- 16. <u>Roller Shades</u> Shades made of lightweight vinyl embossed with a subtle texture. These shades shield interiors from the light while ensuring privacy.
- 17. Roman Shade A window shade made from fabric that hangs flat when down but folds like an accordion when raised.
- 18. Sconce A wall mounted fixture that is used for draping fabric through.
- 19. <u>Spring Tension Rod</u> Adjustable hardware that fits inside the window frame. The internal spring makes it possible to change the length.
- 20. <u>Tassel</u> A finishing feature in fabric and clothing made of loosely hanging threads, cords, or other material knotted at one end and attached for decoration.

- 21. Valance A top window treatment that can stand alone or be mounted over curtains.
- 22. <u>Vinyl Blinds</u> Window treatment made up of several long horizontal or vertical slats that can be made from a variety of materials. They are easy to clean and come in a large assortment of colors.

Decorative Woods

- 1. Base Board A narrow border that runs along the base of a wall where it meets the floor.
- 2. <u>Chair Rail</u> A board applied to a wall anywhere from 24 to 48 inches from the floor. They run horizontally and protect the wall from scuffs and dents.
- 3. <u>Cove Molding</u> A decorative strip where walls and ceilings meet. They bend inward and are often used as inside corner guards or to hide joints.
- 4. <u>Crown Molding</u> A decorative strip where walls and ceilings meet. They bend outward and are used to cover transitions between surfaces or for decoration.
- 5. <u>Door Casing</u> The decorative trim around the edge of doors. It is most often found on residential doors.
- 6. <u>Door/Window Jamb</u> The molding around the window or door. Any type of vertical support around an opening.
- 7. <u>Fascia Board</u> A board mounted at the point where the roof meets the outer wall of a house (horizontal boards attached to rafter/truss ends at the eaves and along gables). Roof drain gutters are attached to it.
- 8. <u>Quarter Round</u> Typically used as a joint between the flooring and the baseboard. It is not a requirement for flooring but adds aesthetic appeal. It covers the uneven edge where flooring meets the baseboard. A variation is a base shoe, a quarter of an ellipse.
- 9. Wainscoting Wooden paneling that lines the lower part of the walls of a room.

Faux Finishes/Techniques

- 1. <u>Brushed Pearl</u> A midcoat paint that is applied over a base color (usually white) that has tiny flecks of iridescent mica added to a clear coating. It gives a dimensional iridescent finish to walls. This unique decorative finish is subtle, incorporating gentle tones for a muted effect.
- 2. <u>Chalk Paint</u> A type of paint that can be used on furniture and other items to create a chalky appearance. It's used for creating an aged appearance and can be distressed easily. It gives a dimensional iridescent finish to walls. This unique decorative finish is subtle, incorporating gentle tones for a muted effect. It began as a trademarked brand of paint by Annie Sloan.
- 3. <u>Marbleizing</u> This is the preparation and finishing of a surface to imitate the appearance of polished marble. It is typically used in buildings where the cost or weight of genuine marble would be prohibitive. Faux marbling is a special case of faux painting used to create the distinctive and varied patterns of marble.
- 4. <u>Sponging</u> The decorative application or removal of paint onto or from walls. This technique adds a subtle texture and rich depth to your walls. By adding multiple layers of color in a random pattern, you build intricate dimension that lends visual interest to your home.
- 5. <u>Strie'</u> A negative glaze technique that is generally rolled over the entire surface, and then removed with a tool such as a brush to create a soft natural striped texture.
- 6. <u>Wallpaper</u> Covering that is pasted in vertical strips over the walls of a room to provide a decorative or textured surface. It is usually sold in rolls and is put on using paste.
- 7. <u>Venetian Plaster</u> It is a wall and ceiling finish consisting of plaster mixed with marble dust, applied with a spatula or trowel in thin, multiple layers, which are then burnished to create a smooth surface with the illusion of depth and texture.

Material

- Brocade A rich fabric woven with a raised pattern with gold or silver thread.
- 2. <u>Burlap</u> A loosely constructed, heavy, plain weave fabric made from jute fiber. It is used as a backing for carpet and may even appear as a drapery fabric.
- 3. <u>Canvas</u> A strong coarse unbleached fabric made from hemp, flax, cotton, or a similar yarn, used to make items such as sails and tents and as a surface for oil painting.
- 4. Chenille A very soft fabric made with fluffy cotton yarns.
- 5. Chintz A printed multicolored cotton fabric with a glazed finish used for curtains and upholstery.
- 6. <u>Damask</u> A woven fabric made from wool, silk, or cotton. The special weave gives the fabric a raised appearance that is typically used for table linens and upholstery.
- 7. <u>Denim</u> A sturdy cotton twill fabric in which the warp threads are usually dyed blue or black and the weft is white, so the top surface of the fabric is mainly blue or black, and the underside remains whitish.
- 8. Gingham Lightweight plain-woven fabric typically checked in white and a bold color.
- 9. <u>Interlining</u> A soft fabric placed between the fabric and the lining that provides insulation.
- 10. Lining A fabric layer placed on the back of curtains to protect them from light and dust.
- 11. Silk A very strong, yet soft fabric made from threads produced by silkworms.
- 12. <u>Tapestry</u> A thick textile fabric with pictures or designs formed by weaving colored threads. Machine woven fabric that looks like it is hand woven.
- 13. <u>Vinyl</u> Fabric made of ethylene derived from natural gas and chlorine that is a versatile material. Types include clear used for raincoats and flannel-backed used for outdoor tablecloths. It is available in many colors and thicknesses.

Tools

- 1. <u>Hammer</u> A hand tool that has a handle with a perpendicularly attached head of metal or other heavy rigid material that is used for striking or pounding.
- 2. Flathead Screwdriver A hand tool that has a handle and a shaft with a flat tip that corresponds to slotted screws.
- 3. <u>Level</u> An instrument for determining whether a surface is horizontal, vertical, or at a 45° angle, consisting of an air bubble that moves to a center window when the instrument is set on an even plane.
- 4. <u>Needle-Nose Pliers</u> A hand tool used to hold objects firmly when bending and compressing a wide range of materials that has a long, tapering forged head used in tight spaces. It may come with a wire-cutting blade near the hinge.
- 5. <u>Phillips Screwdriver</u> A hand tool that has a handle and a shaft with four intersecting perpendicular points that corresponds to a screw that has slots that resemble a cross.
- 6. <u>Putty Knife</u> A hand tool having a flat flexible blade, used for scraping dry glues and paints and for spreading paste, spackle, or putty.
- 7. <u>Safety Glasses</u> Used to protect eyes from particles, water, or chemicals.
- 8. <u>Slip Joint Pliers</u> A hand tool used to grasp, bend, and turn wire or fasteners that has an adjustable design with pivot points which can be moved into two different positions.
- 9. <u>Tongue and Groove Pliers</u> A hand tool used for turning and holding nuts and bolts, gripping irregularly shaped objects, and clamping materials that has serrated jaws. The lower jaw can be moved to several positions.

- 10. <u>Tape Measure</u> A tape of cloth, paper, or steel marked off in a linear scale, of inches or centimeters, for taking measurements.
- 11. Wire Cutter A hand tool used for cutting wire.
- 12. <u>Wrench</u> A hand tool used for gripping and turning nuts, bolts, pipes, etc. that can be open or closed ended. It is often double ended with a different sized opening at each end.
- 13. <u>Utility Knife</u> A hand tool with a small sharp blade, often retractable, designed to cut wood, cardboard, and other materials.

Painting

- 1. <u>Drop Cloth</u> Used to protect furniture, fixtures, and floors when painting.
- 2. Natural Bristle Paint Brush A brush for applying paint made from animal hair that is used for oil paint.
- 3. Pad Applicator A flat rectangular piece of foam that has an easy to hold handle used to apply paint.
- 4. Paint Pail Hook Hardware that holds the paint can on the ladder.
- 5. Roller A device used for applying paint consisting of a cylinder attached to a handle and a pad which fits over the cylinder.
- 6. Roller Tray A container that holds paint when using a paint roller.
- 7. Paint Shield/Guide A plastic or metal device used in corners or where walls meet the ceiling to keep paint where it should be and gives you a sharper and cleaner edge.
- 8. <u>Sandpaper</u> Sheet with sand or another abrasive stuck to it, used for smoothing or polishing woodwork or other surfaces.
- 9. Synthetic Bristle Paint Brush A brush for applying paint made from nylon or nylon/polyester that is used for latex paint.

Windows

- 1. <u>Awning Window</u> This versatile window is hinged at the top to open out from the bottom in an upward swing.
- 2. <u>Casement Window</u> A window hinged on the side that cranks open outward to the left or right allowing for full top to bottom ventilation.
- 3. <u>Double Hung Window</u> Window that has two sashes that move up and down.
- 4. <u>Palladian Window</u> A three-part window composed of a large arched central section flanked by two narrow, shorter sections having square tops.
- 5. <u>Picture Window</u> A large fixed pane window made without glazing bars.
- 6. <u>Slider Window</u> A double hung window placed on its side. They can open from either the left or right side.
- 7. <u>Transom Window</u> A window set above the transom of a door or larger window.

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