

## 4 A Place to Relax

Designer Lise Tanner of Lise Tanner Interior Design in Tacoma says the key to creating a harmonious space like this is to find balance. The large-scale fireplace anchors this room and it needed furniture that could balance it out. The space itself isn't very big, but it was important to The Colony at Bear Creek Resort in Redmond to have plenty of seating for guests. You can take design cues from your favorite hotel or resort and incorporate the things you like into your own home.

Tanner met their challenge. "We wanted to fit as much comfortable seating in it as possible without overcrowding and still have it aesthetically pleasing," Tanner said. She also used color as an accessory and says it is an easy way for anyone to personalize or change the look of any space. "The important thing to remember with color is that a little can go a long way. Many times it is a bigger impact to put touches of color—in accessories—in a neutral room, (rather) than have a lot of color on the walls."

If you have a big open space and want to define areas, the best way to do that is to create separate seating areas. If you have a large living room or den, you might put a large rug in one area, and add a coffee table and some seating. And then perhaps add a little bar off to the corner with barstools, or a separate seating area with oversized pillows, a bookshelf with books and games and a floor lamp. Several zones set up in one room can give the space more functionality and make it feel cozy. Just make sure your areas flow—repeating colors can help bring it all together. »

