

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I work with Beautiful Habitat?

We start with a phone conversation to gather initial information and determine if Beautiful Habitat may be able to meet your design needs. If we both agree to move forward, we will have a “meet & greet” meeting.

The goal of this meeting is more about the relationship, not design solutions. We will discuss your wants, needs, wish list, goals and budget. But we spend a lot more time determining how we will work together. If we both agree that it is a good fit, Beautiful Habitat will present a proposal for the design work.

Once a contract is signed, work begins. Depending upon the scope of work, we will lay out specific timelines, steps, and expectations.

How can I prepare for our meeting?

Before the meeting, have an open dialog between household partners. Discuss the scope of work, priorities and goals and ensure there is agreement on the points that are important to each partner. Make a list to discuss with us to ensure nothing is forgotten in the excitement of the moment during our meeting.

It's not essential, but capturing visuals of rooms, design elements, colors, or pieces that you like or are drawn to is really helpful. Pinterest and Houzz are both great tools for capturing ideas for your project. You can also pull ideas from magazines and books. Sharing these with us in advance of, or during the meeting is beneficial. Have a discussion about budget and know what you are willing to invest in the project. Ensure you are both in agreement on that amount. Most marriages have a spender and a saver, so it is very important to have this discussion prior to our initial meeting.

How do I determine a budget?

We have some hard news for you: the budget is not what you hope it will cost. The budget is what you actually have to invest in your project. You have a certain amount that you are willing and able to invest in your home. It is our job to take that specific amount of funds and best allocate them to fulfill your needs. When the scope of work and the amount you are willing to spend are out of alignment, we will let you know.

At the end of the day, things cost what they cost. We maximize that amount based on your specific scope of work and priorities. To help set your investment amount, it is best to prepare by writing a list of your top priorities. Separate items as needs, wants, and nice to have.

What services does Beautiful Habitat provide?

We can work with you in different ways, from consultancy to concierge level service. We typically classify projects as Remodel/New construction or Interior Furnishings and Décor and many plans encompass both. We provide 3 levels of Service: **Full Service**, **Design-Only** or **Consultation**.

Remodeling: Remodeling projects involve construction; Kitchen or Bathroom design through to additions and full home remodels or new construction. We create the detailed plans for the products and finishes that will be installed into your home: flooring, cabinetry, plumbing and smart lighting plans. We work with the necessary team including architect, engineers, and contractors to create the full remodel and construction plans.

Interior Furnishings and Decor: Selecting furniture, fabrics, window treatments, colors, art & accessories, even flooring and wall treatments. We pull together a comprehensive plan and work with the appropriate craftsmen to bring it to life.

Most projects are **full service design**, meaning we create a comprehensive design plan and follow through the implementation of the plan. For **design-only**, we create a comprehensive design plan and our clients handle the purchasing and working with the contractors and installers.

In addition, we offer **Color and Design Consultation**; design advice, tips and color analysis for the adventurous Do-It-Yourselfer or for smaller projects. We arm you with the information and direction and you execute the project on your own.

How long will my project take? What are the timelines?

We like to say the relationship between Beautiful Habitat and our clients is a marriage, not a date. We are going to be working together for a while and we'll get to know quite a bit about each other.

In general, remodeling projects can take six months or longer to complete, while a decorating project will take closer to 3-4 months. The duration of the project is not set in stone and hinges on many factors. If you make decisions quickly, if you are available and responsive, the project will be completed sooner. If you need a little bit more time to mull things over or have limited availability, it could increase the time necessary to complete the project.

It is best to contact us as early as possible to discuss your potential project.

What do you charge?

Our fees depend on the type of project, scope of work involved, level of service you request, and the location of the project. Our services are typically calculated on a flat fee basis, which represents a reasonable assessment of the time, materials and resources it will take to professionally execute your job on time and on budget. This requires us to spend a lot more time up front, getting to know you, understand your pains, and defining your final vision for your home. Only then can we put a total fee on the scope of the project. In some cases we may recommend an hourly fee.

Why should I hire Beautiful Habitat?

When you purchase interior design services, you are purchasing the expertise that comes from education, years of experience, and natural abilities. In many ways, you are purchasing peace of mind. We save you time, money and headaches while bringing your dream home to life.

Working with Beautiful Habitat will:

- save you money by avoiding costly mistakes and bad purchases
- save you time by doing the legwork for you, and accessing our knowledge and resources
- create innovative and unique solutions to your specific problems, needs, and desires
- spend time focusing on the details, which is the difference between a room that is OK and a room that is stunning
- help you make decisions with confidence based on our expertise, detailed specifications and drawings
- make you aware of unique choices available and give you the confidence to try something new
- make the most of what you already have
- have access to products beyond the chain retail stores, and tried and tested contractors and craftspeople
- provide you with access to an international selection of products and vendors
- communicate the design vision and expectations with contractors, installers, vendors and craftspeople to ensure the construction and implementation go smoothly and with less stress

In addition, Tennille Wood provides a unique edge to Colorado clients. Her International education has given her a broader approach to design solutions, along with a pool of European products and vendors.

How long have you been in business?

Beautiful Habitat was founded in London, England in 2006 before relocating to Colorado in 2007.

What do you wish clients knew about your profession?

I often hear clients say they are looking for a designer that "matches their style", meaning they look at portfolios and choose designers that have rooms with a "look" that the client wants. What I'd like them to know is that a good designer can design in any style. What is more important is choosing a designer based on a good personality fit and comfort level. This is a long term relationship and you want to ensure you can work well together.

What are your payment terms?

Beautiful Habitat accepts cash, check, credit cards or paypal payments. Each project requires an initial deposit to begin work.