

## Design Dos and Don'ts

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*AFM* asks our favorite pros for their designing advice. When it comes to successfully mixing patterns, **Christy Geninatti of *Est Est*** says...

**Do:** Mix the scale of your patterns. Scale is one of the most important factors; choose at least one large, one medium, and one small scale pattern.

**Do:** Consider the colors. Choose colors that are either similar in intensity and/or similar in hue.

**Do:** Remember to use repetition. The repetition of color and pattern in a space result in a cohesive design.

**Don't:** Use all the same style of patterns. It is much more interesting to use patterns that juxtapose one another, like a geometric and a floral.

**Don't:** Group patterns in only one area. Pattern creates visual weight and you want there to be an even feel in the space.

**Don't:** Forget the solids. Too many patterns are distracting, and the solids help to balance everything out.