

GO WHERE THE PROS GO

To make a home look its best, interior designers know just where to shop. Here are their favorite spots. *By Emma Cameron*

When it comes to home décor shops in Bergen County, there's almost an embarrassment of riches. Which store does one choose — and to buy what? In the paragraphs that follow, answering those questions suddenly gets easier, thanks to the wisdom gained through professional experience by five of the area's top interior designers. They happily complied when BERGEN asked them to share tips, keyed to the purchase you're considering.

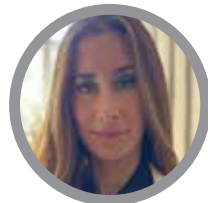
OUR INTERIOR DESIGNERS



Susan Farcy,
Susan Farcy Interior
Design, Wyckoff



Allison Prior,
Allison Prior
Interiors, Wyckoff



Robyn Stevens,
Silhouette Studio,
Saddle River



Marina V. Umali,
Marina V Design
Studio, Ridgewood



Wendy Wallin,
Impeccable Designs,
Ramsey



If you're looking for...furniture:

There's no shame in turning to the big dogs like West Elm in Paramus or Pottery Barn in Hackensack for furniture to fill your home. But our experts can also suggest some newer places you may not have heard of yet, such as Saloni Furniture and Dogtas Home in Paramus. Marina Umali gives us the inside scoop: "I've purchased good-looking pieces for my clients at Saloni Furniture, and recently I was introduced to Dogtas, a new showroom with some updated looks." For custom pieces right outside Bergen County, Wendy Wallin goes to Arthur Parks Upholstery in Clifton.



If you're looking for... window treatments:

Our designers say custom window treatments are the way to go. But where do you start? Umali recommends The Shade Store in Closter. You can meet with a design expert at the showroom there to handpick the shades, blinds or drapery of your dreams. Robyn Stevens' go-to is Valcamy Window Treatment in Lodi. "They make everything exactly to my specifications—by hand in their workroom," she says. "They do beautiful Roman drapery and Austrian shades."



If you're looking for.... fixtures and hardware:

Choosing the right plumbing fixtures can make or break a kitchen or bathroom. Susan Farcy says the Ferguson Showroom on Route 17 in Mahwah "is spectacular, as it has a fantastic selection of vanities, soaking tubs, cabinet hardware and plumbing fixtures displayed so beautifully it's easy for my clients to envision how everything will look in their homes." She also commends Kohler on Route 17 in Paramus for its top-quality picks of fixtures and hardware sure to make any house a home, right down to the details.





If you're looking for...lighting:

Floor lamps, ceiling fans or even a candelabra: The right lighting is necessary to achieve that perfect ambiance. "My clients know that lighting is a favorite detail of mine," Allison Prior tells BERGEN. "I love having the local Wyckoff Lighting Center in Wyckoff as a source for the best brands and unique styles." For an alternative option, Wallin commends Capital Lighting in Paramus for its service and selection. "Everyone I work with makes it easy to specify products, as they know much about their industry," she says.



If you're looking for...rugs.

Hoffman Floor & Home in Westwood makes it easy to have a beautiful new floor for any project. Plus, its customer service is top-notch. Just ask Stevens, who reports: "My contact there is Anthony. He's one of the owners, young and charismatic. Goes above and beyond to make clients happy. Full-service flooring." For carpeting, Wallin says Wostbrock Home in Ridgewood is the way to go. "Heidi and her team just make it happen for me as a designer," she tells BERGEN.

