

## Ten Design Tips: Improve Your Relationship!

by Design Expert: Kenneth Brown



Believing that well-planned, beautiful spaces nourish and support us, renowned Interior Designer and TV host Kenneth Brown shows us how you can use good design to **Improve Your Relationship**.

### Ten Tips From Kenneth Brown for Turning Your Bedroom Into a Romantic Getaway

We spend half of our lifetime in our bedroom. That is why the design of these rooms is so important. With the right design in hand, you can improve your life. And with today's busy lifestyle, it's hard to find time for romance, so consider these design tips to turn your bedroom into a romantic getaway.

1. **Lighting** is key to set the right mood and this is why you should always have at least two lamps with textured shades to diffuse the light throughout the room. This light is more flattering than overhead lights which create shadows in all the wrong places.
2. **Mixing textures** like a silk bedspread, sateen sheets, down pillows and a faux fur throw is a great way to set the mood. Think about what feels great against the skin and avoid anything that is rough or scratchy.
3. **Color** will give you the biggest bang for your buck so bring in flattering warm colors. Do not be afraid to accent with warm ruby reds and burnt orange colors with window treatments and accent art pieces. Avoid bright colored blues and greens as these colors do not flatter skin tones and create a cold environment.



4. **Smell** is often the most overlooked element in interior design. Vanilla and cinnamon scented candles are a perfect way to spice up your bedroom not to mention the added benefit of flickering candlelight.
5. Keep your **in-laws and ex's out** of your bedroom. Remove any framed pictures of your parents, in-laws, ex's and even children. Your romantic bedroom should only have pictures of you and your partner framed in a simple frame next to the bed. You don't want to stare at your mother-in-law while feeling romantic.
6. Bring in a **plush rug** that feels amazing on your feet. If you have enough space, bring in a large plush rug to create extra floor-space for a change of scenery.
7. **Fresh flowers** always add the element of romance, so keep a simple glass vase of flowers on the nightstand. Avoid large overpowering arrangements that feel like you're at a funeral.
8. If you have a **TV** in your bedroom, consider **concealing it** out of sight in a piece of furniture—the less distractions the better.
9. **Avoid bringing work** into the bedroom, but if you must, have a nice storage box to store it in and tuck away at a moment's notice. Seeing work is far from romantic.
10. One of the most important and forgotten element that helps create ambience is **music**. Download those special songs that have meaning.

