

How to Layer a Rug 101

It's been said that the perfect rug can transform any space. But, have you ever considered adding more than one? Maybe you've thought about layering rugs in your favorite room, you're just not sure how. It doesn't have to be complicated. Have fun, and let your style and personality reflect in your space!

Color

Color is a great place to start. Select rugs with similar, limited, or complementary color palettes. Rugs with the same hues typically work well together. Consider color options with the same intensity. For example, pastels and jewel tones are not very appealing together. You can also select colors that are already in the designated room. Another option is to select rugs of different colors that are constructed with similar textures, for a subtle detail that instantly elevates the space.

Technique

Consider the thickness of the rugs and/or carpet. The basic layering technique involves placing the larger rug evenly under the smaller, where the dimensions on each side of the smaller are identical. Try sliding the top rug downward and over to the right or left for an alternative symmetrical look. Layer one rug at a 45-degree angle on top of the other, to make the rugs the focal point of the room. If you have 2 smaller rugs, another option is to overlap the edges of the rugs to make them appear larger to cover more space. This can help to create a homey, welcoming feel. Pairing small/midsize rugs is also a great way to embellish a long hallway or foyer space.

Texture + Pattern

Experimenting with texture adds coziness and interest to a room. Styling rugs of one color made with different textures, creates a harmonious look with heightened style. Shag rugs help to add depth to a space, especially if the furniture is neutral. Mix and match these rug combinations in your home for the perfect blend.

- Vintage printed rug over a solid natural rug
- Flatweave over a plush rug
- 2 or 3 muted patterns layered together

Why Layer a Rug

Aesthetic + Color

This styling technique makes a home feel richer, by adding an extra layer of design. It can add a pop of color, without overwhelming the room. Including an additional 1, 2, or even 3 rugs adds a level of comfort and character you may not find with other accessories.

Define a Space + Highlight a Feature

Rug layering aids in defining the spaces within your home, for different purposes. It can help to separate a living room from a dining area, walkway, or play area for children, etc. Accentuate a particular space in your home that you want to highlight stylistically, like a sitting area or reading nook. Make a furniture piece the focus of a room with a statement rug on top of an area rug. You can also layer smaller rugs next to a bed as a cushioned landing spot over an area rug, creating a warm inviting feel.

Of course, don't forget a rug pad. This will extend the life of your rugs by adding cushion, protecting your floors, and preventing slippage and movement.