

Hannah and Matt,

Thank you for entrusting me with the most important room in your home where your family will gather for many years to come! It has been equal parts fun and stretching for me to design a big space like this, with two divided areas. I hope that you like it!

I've also included a design board that can help you visualize my personal favorite pieces together. I know it's a little weird with that TV area sofa at a tilt, but that's the only way I could show the division of space without it looking really confusing with the sofa on its side. With such a big space being designed here, I didn't include pictures on the design board of the shelving you'll have around your desk area, nor your big entertainment center. Just know, that with all the white those pieces will bring, they will soften up the other colors you see in the design board and add a lot of neutral color. Finally, I send you two design boards--one with the desk chair I LOVE, and one with the chair that I feel Matt might potentially prefer.

My work doesn't end here. Please feel free to text/email/call me when you have a question, need a second opinion before buying something, or when you are finally placing things in your room and need advisement.

Finally, please know that while I think every furniture piece I list before will work wonderfully in your home, you can make this design plan more of your touchstone while looking. If you find something similar at a better price or that you like even more, then go for it! I'd love to see it all come together once you are done, if I can invite myself over!

I look forward to seeing your room on its completion.

Monica

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**:COLOR SCHEME:**

[Greige](#) walls, with the main colors being gray and navy blue, with accents of plant-green and coral. Larger furniture will largely remain in the base colors, with the accents being present in the smaller furniture items, pillows, throws, and other accessories.

Oil-rubbed bronze (a matte black), brass, warm leathers, and shades of wood will all add variety and interest.

**:LAYOUT:**

As you come in, I'm calling that first area the "[Front Sitting Area.](#)" Your eyes should see the gray sofa facing you (alongside side tables, lamps, and a plant to bridge the two areas), placed under the window, the desk area on the left wall, and the back of two arm chairs that are situated to face the sofa with a comfy, easily movable ottoman in between.

On the right, you have the “[TV Area.](#)” The back of the leather sofa will be lined up where your old wall was, with a slim sofa table on its back (this helps divide the area in a beautiful, and useful, way! An example (with a too-big table for your area) is [here](#)). That sofa will face the wall where your fireplace used to be and where your new entertainment center will be. On the side of the half wall nearest the entertainment center, I feel you can have another comfy armchair, side table, and pouf that are angled to face toward the leather couch. That provides more seating and also encourages conversations with guests. You’ll also have other accessories (lamps, planters, paintings/pictures/mirrors on walls, etc.) to fill in the spaces. I envision your piano being along the wall you are keeping in tact between these two areas, and I’d love your big family portrait to be over that. You can even have matching lamps on either end of the top of the piano and maybe a few accessories, including trays to keep things divided. I’d stay away from doing a whole top of framed photos because it looks too cluttered and is hard to dust.

### **:RUGS:**

I like to start with the rugs as it anchors your entire space. Since you will be dividing the room into two areas, I feel that it would be best to get two of the same rug. I’d make them as close as you can get to at least 8X10s (Make sure you measure this out first to ensure the sizes fit!) With the front seating area, I’d place the rug horizontally; with the TV area, I’d place it perpendicularly to the other rug. That will help divide the space, but also lead to cohesive colors in the grand room, as a whole.

I always recommend more traditional looking rugs with lots of fine pattern. That makes stains blend easier, and they’re classic enough to carry throughout many years of use.

I know that navy blue is our preference in the color scheme, but with the rugs I highly recommend doing a more neutral blue--such a gray-blue. If you go too dark in the rugs, they’ll suck up all the attention and your room will be too busy. But if you have a more neutral blue with the rug, then your furniture will shine and you’ll be able to blend in more patterns, in addition to other colors. Also, in the future if you want to change up your color scheme, having a more neutral blue in the rugs will lend well to other color arrangements.

That being said, here are my picks (that are also realllllly priced well!): [Here](#) (in light blue), [here](#) (my personal favorite), [here](#), [here](#), (brings in other colors), and [here](#) (this is if you both feel strongly about doing a darker rug).

### <<Front Sitting Area>>

### **:GRAY SOFA:**

I’ve scoured the internet and as you know, sofas aren’t cheap. With gray, I think it would be best to do a removable cover so you can easily wash out stains. My personal favorite at the best cost is this [Ikea sofa](#) (in dark gray). If you buy that, then you can spend more money elsewhere, such as getting a higher quality leather sofa. I also like [this one](#), that’s more affordable. If you’re

ready to make a bigger splurge, then I recommend one of these from Pottery Barn, upholstered in sunbrella fabric in gray (that's a fabric that is very stain-resistant and holds up wonderfully!): [Here](#) and [here](#).

#### **:OTTOMAN:**

I think this area calls for a soft place to put your feet, as well as provide a bit more storage. I know that you want this front area to be used for your son's Occupational Therapy, which I fully support. I do think that you will like a little ottoman though that adds color and comfort, but is also very easy to slide over for OT time.

I personally really like the idea of doing your plant-green with the ottoman. [Here](#) is my favorite, and [another](#) in "emerald" (I think this is a great green though, because otherwise it will show stains too easily). (Also, velvet is easy to clean.) I also like some blue ones, [here](#) and [here](#) (in "royal").

#### **:DESK AREA:**

I think you can use the shelving you already have. I would add the extension to the one cabinet so they match and place a desk in between. You might not have room for that third shorter book shelf. If you do though, I think it's OK to have two of those on the left side and one on the right. You'd also want to add an extension to that one (adding a cabinet at the bottom too) and that will make things look beautiful.

Make sure you measure between your shelves to see what kind of space you have here. With many of these desk ideas, you can place shorter filing cabinets underneath them, as needed.

I like the idea of sticking with white like [this](#), [this](#), and [this](#). If you'd like to consider a more natural wood toned desk, I like [this one](#) and [this one](#).

#### **:CHAIR FOR DESK:**

Trust me, this is where you can have a little fun. My very favorite chair for this area is [here](#) (love the colors are all here, how it will hide stains, and how it's both classic and fun), but [here](#) is another good option that you might like. You can get either one shipped for free using the code on the homepage right now.

Even if you don't get either of these, I would encourage you to choose a fun chair that uses some of those accent colors.

#### **:SIDE CHAIRS:**

Two of these would be nice to pair opposite of the sofa. I think you should keep these in your deep, navy blue. It will hide stains, be classic, and also comfy.

My mom got [two of these](#) for her great room and I love them. I also love these: [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

## <<TV Area>>

### **:LEATHER SOFA:**

I fully support your desire to do a walnut-colored leather sofa. However, I'd like to warn you to stay away from "espresso" colors as that's usually what they do to disguise low-quality leather (wood furniture, too).

My mother recently remodeled and ordered a few sofas from Leather Furniture Expo. They have a lot of brands on there and you can easily compare the leather quality. The leather sofas she got from there are amazing--I'm a huge fan, especially because the cost is right. Honestly, you could spend your entire 4K budget on a leather sofa. I think this might be a good way to go. Here are my two favorite sofas from there: [Here](#) and [here](#) (best price and top-grain leather!).

I also like [this one](#) from Wayfair.

If you want to go big, I like [this one](#) from Pottery Barn and I think the maple color is a good compromise, or chocolate. I'd personally go check these out in person if you're going to splurge, and get a sample of a few leather colors and bring them home to see which colors look better in your space.

### **:SOFA TABLES:**

Along the back of the sofa, I highly recommend doing a slim sofa table. This will help divide the space, beautify it, and could also be useful. [This one](#) and [this smaller](#) version are my personal favorite, but I also like [this wood one](#) and how it can add some organic feel.

### **:OTTOMAN:**

In front of the leather sofa, you definitely need either an ottoman or a coffee table. I leave that up to you to decide, but keep in mind that if your leather is darker, you might want to have lighter wood tones in the table or accent colors in the ottoman.

You can do [this one](#) in dark gray, blue, or even red (which is really coral), or [two of these](#) in dark gray, or even [this one](#) in light coral.

### **:COFFEE TABLE:**

For a table, [this](#) is my personal favorite, but I also like [this one](#) from IKEA, and its oval shape softens the lines of the room.

You can always buy a coffee table from a thrift store or craigslist, and paint it one of your accent colors to save some money!

### **:ENTERTAINMENT CENTER:**

The Entertainment center is another thing you could spend your entire budget on. I honestly couldn't find one that wasn't ridiculously expensive, but if that's what you're ready to do then I'd check out Pottery Barn or even Wayfair.

For the cheaper--but still good--alternative, I love [this one](#) (spray painted a bright white) and [this one](#) from Ikea. The latter of the two here is my favorite, as it looks more built-in without as much hassle as painting.

[One of your pins](#) has great ideas of how to make Ikea ones look built-in.

[Here](#) are some good tips to make them look built-in--mainly, add toe kicks, moldings, and your own hardware. That will make a huge difference to making these ikea ones look like the real deal. That, and a lot of wood glue while you assemble.

#### **:SIDE CHAIR:**

I think this area could really use another chair. I referenced in the layout how I envision this going. I like using gray, and then a pillow in an accent color to add color. That way you can use it regardless of future color schemes. Two I like: [here](#) and [here](#).

#### <<BOTH Areas>>

#### **:HARDWARE:**

This is to add to your cabinets, both on the desk area as well as the entertainment center. Some Hardware I think would look great--and I'd stick to either oil-rubbed bronze (matte black) or brass--for Pulls: [Here](#), or [here](#). Knobs (just make sure the metals match between the pulls and the knobs): [here](#).

#### **:SIDE TABLES:**

I think you need some side tables by the two sofas as well as by the gray chair in the TV Area, and maybe even one between the two matching chairs in the front area. You can choose your favorites and they can work well in either space.

[Here](#), [here](#) (in gold or black), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#) (adds metallic accents and texture).

#### **:POUFS:**

Poufs help fill up the space, provide spots for feet or even bottoms, and can be something you have fun with. I like [this one](#) best for your space, but feel free to check out poufs at Home Goods and Target and take any one you like!

#### **:LIGHTING:**

You can find cheaper lighting at Target, Home Goods, and TJ Maxx. Again, these can be things you buy directly, or more of inspiration of what to look for when you shop around.

### Floor lamps:

You'll want two-three of these.

[This one](#) is one of my favorites for your space. Floor lamps are where you can add your oil-rubbed bronze (black), your brass, and your wood tones. I know that black is a little scary, but honestly each space really benefits from a few accents of black. Just try it out in small doses! This one comes in white, too; [this one](#) is a target option that is similar, but in white.

I also love these: [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

### Table Lamps:

You'll want these spread out, including some matching ones for places like above your piano or even on the sofa table if you need some lighting there.

Some that I like: [Here](#), [here](#), and [here](#). I also really love the idea of some very classic lamps if you use them in pairs, such a blue oriental lamp. You can see examples of what I mean [here](#).

### **:PILLOWS:**

I searched a lot for pillows that I think will really work well with your color scheme. This is where we need to blend navy blue, some green, and some coral. You can see the design board for ideas on how to pair the colors in the various areas. And don't be afraid of a little pattern mixing! Pillows is where you can have a lot of fun. Here are some of my very favorites:

#### BLUES:

[Here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#),

#### CORALS:

[Here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

#### GREENS:

[Here](#) (also available in blue).

#### MULTI:

[Here](#) (a real winner!), [here](#) (brings in the greens--I'd like this on the leather sofa), [here](#) (love this one),

If none of these are really feeling right to you, pillows are a great thing for you to go to a fabric store or even online fabric store and finding exactly what you want. You could always make them yourself!

### **:CURTAINS:**

You will have two big windows/sliding door that could use curtains, so you'd need to buy at least 4, maybe double if you want them to be thicker. Make sure they are long enough to dust the floor, but tall enough for your rod to hang high and wide above your window/door frames. (Common mistakes: hanging your curtains too low and too narrow--you want high and wide as it opens up the space!) You want these curtains to add style and color, but without being too bold to distract from the rest of the room. [This](#) and [this](#) are our inspiration for that. I like the idea of doing these in dark blue or gray.

[Here](#) is a favorite I found, but I also like [these](#) and [these](#).

#### **:CURTAIN RODS:**

Here is where you stick with our metals: dark oil-rubbed bronze (black), brass, or even wood. Some examples: [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

#### **:MIRRORS:**

Mirrors add light, reflect the room to make it look bigger, and are just dang pretty. Some cheaper ones that are great: [Here](#), [here](#) (I have this and it is great--others like it cost over \$200), and [here](#).

#### **:THROWS:**

Throws are an affordable way to bring in those accent color! My favorites: [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).