

GO T H A M

**DAMN,
YANKEE!**
ALEX AND CYNTHIA
RODRIGUEZ

AT HOME IN
RICHARD MEIER'S
PERRY STREET TOWERS

BEHIND THE SCENES
AT THE CITY'S HOTTEST
NEW RESIDENCES

POWER REAL ESTATE
BROKERS DUKE IT OUT

GUESS WHO'S
COMING TO DINNER:
**DESIGN, STYLE,
SEX & FOOD!**

IT'S TRUE! EDITRIX
BONNIE FULLER
GETS HORIZONTAL



www.gotham-magazine.com
NICHE MEDIA, LLC

Tip, Top, Terrific

We asked interior design whiz **Eric Cohler** to give us his top five tips on snazzing up a space.

1. PLAN YOUR ATTACK: It's essential to begin with a plan when designing an interior, whether it's a room or an entire house. Without a strategy, one can't develop a budget or a sense of scale. Try to make changes on paper; it's far less costly.

2. SPLASH ON THE COLOR: Paint is the least expensive way to change the face and character of a room. The results are instantaneous and quite dramatic. Dorothy Draper was a superb colorist, known for her use of bold color that gave her rooms timeless verve, dash, and originality.

3. HIT THE WALLPAPER: Wallpaper is *hot*. These new papers are unlike anything you may remember, and are being printed in contemporary patterns, textures, and lush colors. Sheila Bridges' fabulous new Harlem Toile de Jouy paper is a contemporary version of an 18th-century design, and is available in graphic yellow and black. David Hicks, eat your heart out!

4. MAKE A GRAND GESTURE: Every room needs at least one showstopper—something in the space that says who you are in a *big* way. It can be a large contemporary painting, or a collection of framed photographs grouped together, or a family heirloom you've lacquered in an unexpected color. It's not about cost, but about making a statement. Billy Baldwin always made sure of this in every project—he believed in art for art's sake.

5. GET SHADY: A lampshade can make or break a room. Sounds simple, but it's true. One's eye automatically goes to the shade. So, either keep it simple, or go for baroque and use an over-the-top style to create interest and drama. It's not so much the lamp, but the shade that matters. A good-looking shade will cover a multitude of sins. When in doubt, use a paper or vellum shade—you can't go wrong. Thomas O'Brien, who's mastered the art of the paper shade, gets it right every time. [E]

