

# Vision Actualized Project & Priority List

## Vision Actualized

After familiarizing yourself with these five design tools, now is the time to put them to work to actualize your vision!

I hope your instinct is to create a plan because that is exactly what needs to be done to actualize your vision. As in all prior projects, first determine the scope of work. Brainstorm, as before, your project list (see below). The scope of work and the project list are the same thing. They are a list of rooms, spaces, and places to design. Use what you have first, redesign loved and needed things (furniture and accessories) to reveal your vision.

VISION ACTUALIZED PROJECT LIST	
Room/Space	Project & Goal
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Next, prioritize the vision project list. Use the questions below to help flesh out your priorities. Focus on one space at a time to safeguard against frustration and paralysis.

- What space is manageable as a place to begin?
- Where are you eager to see results?
- Where do you *live* the most?
- Where do you live in the least?
- Where does an urgent need surface (sleep, meals, entertaining, laundry, etc.)?
- Where can you be most successful?
- What project is closely linked to your values or feeds your vision?

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VISION ACTUALIZED PRIORITY LIST		
Room or Area	Priority	Completed

With each project, practice each design principle one at a time:



You may be excited to get in and mess with everything, but be patient. Like any new skill, the road is lumpy at first. Over time, understanding and comfort level of the concepts, goals, and disciplines of the five principles will increase. Some principles will be easier to grasp and implement than others. Use your creative spirit to become the designer of *your* vision. Picking and choosing a few tips in each principle is enough to shift the way you look and react to your space

A blank canvas is easiest to work from. If possible, consider removing everything from the room and rebuilding it from the ground up. I realize this approach may not be doable. At minimum, remove items that will not have a home in the space you are working in.

Consult your floor plan layout. Add furnishings in layers. Start with larger pieces of furniture, otherwise known as the anchors of the space, like the sofa, bed, dining table, larger wall art, buffet, or dressers. Slowly sprinkle in the secondary items, like smaller storage pieces, chairs, or side tables. Adjust and arrange one piece at a time. The accessories—lamps, knick-knacks, pillows, smaller wall hangings—are the sprinkles on the ice cream, adding color, texture, and personality.

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At each layer, as loved and needed items enter the room, ask, “How does this space feel now?” Pay attention to the tipping point when furniture is too big or there is too much in a space. Stop adding just before the space feels “full.” Keep refining. Let go of anything that is clouding or crowding your vision.

### Tips to help move through the visioning process:

- Put “like” things together in *one* location. Keep blankets, books, remotes, magazines, utensils, etc. all together in one spot. Everything has a place. Everything in its place.
- Move less frequently used possessions to less valuable space.
- Ensure easy access to often-used items. Stick to a “grab and go” efficiency.
- Commit to 100 percent visibility of things in each drawer, basket, or on each shelf. Avoid things behind books or under beds if possible. Visibility is key.
- Rearrange, remove, and reprioritize possessions until every- thing is in the right place.
- Unsure where something fits? Ask, “If this was in the perfect, most obvious location, where would this piece fit?”
- Be flexible: a coat closet might make a great office or games closet.
- Associate and connect things: if a fireplace is associated with reading or games, put those possessions by the fireplace. If bill paying is associated with the kitchen, place associated possessions in the kitchen.

As discernment blossoms, it becomes easier and easier to recognize what works.

Maintain a willingness to try new things, and don’t run away, but pivot if problems arise.

The resilience you gained resides within. Patience is rewarded with perseverance.

When your space is right, you will feel an exhale of relief.

Take in *your* loved space.

Congrats, courageous one!

