

Not-So-Basic Black and White: 10 Top Designers Create Magical Spaces with the Classic Combo

incollect.com/articles/not-so-basic-black-and-white-10-top-designers-create-magical-spaces-with-the-classic-pair

There's no denying that black and white interiors pack a visual punch. Strong contrasting elements, crisp definition of forms, and the dramatic push-pull of light and shadow all create the basis for a dynamic experience. The look is timeless, harking back to classic black-and-white Roman mosaic floors, while also evoking modern minimalism. Black and white interiors require a deft hand with pacing, to avoid monotony, and bold, brilliant choices for accessories, art, and textiles, with special attention to texture, which naturally becomes a marquee player in pared-down color palettes. Attention to balance is of paramount importance, because positive and negative space are defined with intense clarity. Striking or serene, layered or pristine, these rooms by 10 top interior designers are united by their chic appeal.





Famous for her exuberant use of color, **Amy Lau** shows she can do anything, as evidenced by this lyrical dining room. Whirling, twirling, serpentine shapes contrast with boxy grids and angular profiles in this fantastic composition of black and white. Spanning ten feet across, an eight-armed “Octopus” chandelier by Achille Salvagni bathes the scene in warm light filtered through its onyx shades. A celebration of organic form and the artistic process, the one-of-a-kind *Lumenoria* dining table by Irish furniture artist Joseph Walsh is crafted with a black pigment-dyed ash base and an amber cast resin top. A pair of his 3-legged *Enignum II* chairs are positioned at the head and foot of the table, mated with a half dozen of Gio Ponti’s 1957 design classic, the *Superleggera* chair. The walls are covered in a gallery-style assemblage of black and white abstract artwork from Group ZERO, a consortium of neo-avant-garde artists with roots in the Minimalist and Italian *Arte Povera* movements of the late 1950s. Photo by Thomas Loof