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## Austin ASID Homes Tour: Laura Britt Design

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By Courtney Sebesta | Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 05:36 PM

The Austin chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers is holding an inaugural tour of Austin homes Saturday showcasing work by award-winning local interior designers. Four homes designed by Panache Interiors, Laura Britt Design, Bulhon Design Associates and Spaces Designed Interior Design Studio are open to the public with staff members from each design firm giving tours and answering questions about interior design.

We asked the ASID Homes Tour interior designers to share a little about the projects they worked on and to offer advice to those looking to take on their very own design project. First up in our series of profiles is Laura Britt of Laura Britt Design.

Britt launched Laura Britt Design in 2001 and is known nationally for her sustainable design work. She has both a degree in interior design and a master's degree in architecture with emphasis in sustainable design. She designed the Greenshores house (7101 Malibu Cove) on tour Saturday.



**What is your favorite part of the home you designed and why?** "I love the whole home, but if I have to pick just one area as my favorite, it would be the dining room. I love that we were able to incorporate beautifully designed furniture from Jose Minguell, AIA from Minguell-McQuary Architecture + Design, for the modern dining chairs. They create an interesting sculptural counterpoint to the 'live' edge dining table and buffet. The Tufenkian rug also brings in color and pattern to an otherwise neutral space."

**When starting an interior design project, what questions should homeowners ask themselves? What should they take into consideration?** "Homeowners should stop to consider the elements they most value when they think of their home. We look at the long-term goals of the clients and then match the environment and the individual elements to those goals. The clients should also consider how they truly want to live in their homes. Some people don't even really want a separate formal dining space anymore, and that is completely OK. I believe that homes should be designed to really fit the way you spend your time."

**What are some of the biggest mistakes homeowners make when starting a redesign project?** "One of the most common mistakes we see is lack of appropriate scale and proportion. Usually clients undersize pieces for their space - sometimes bigger is actually better!"



**Can you offer any tips on how to make small changes to a home or a room on a limited budget?** "PAINT! Using color can dramatically change a space with a very limited investment. The effect color has on people is actually a topic that has been researched with proven results."

The ASID Homes Tour is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. Visit the Austin x Design website for event details and to print a map of the homes on the free tour, [www.austinbydesign.org](http://www.austinbydesign.org).

The Austin design community has scheduled an abundance of events this month for Austin x Design—a community celebration of Austin's natural and built environments. Visit the Austin x Design website for event details, [www.austinbydesign.org](http://www.austinbydesign.org).

Photos by Casey Dunn

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Very impressive. Austin is fortunate to have Laura Britt Design. Love her design and the fact that it is sustainable.

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