



See Tenley Beazley's renovated home in the Winter 2011 issue of *Renovation Style* ("Art and Soul") and on our page on Facebook.

Unswayed by trends or traditions, Virginia artist Tenley Beazley shares her thoughts on renovating a home and finishing it with flair.

Q: You've been through renovation projects before. What did you do differently this time?

A: I thought ahead about lighting and lighting fixtures. It often takes a while to find the right fixture, so it was a part of the whole planning process this time.

Q: You trusted your intuition a lot. What did people think wouldn't work that they love?

A: I went for soapstone and marble countertops in the kitchen, but everyone kept trying to talk me out of it. You certainly can't cut on them, but once everyone got used to using cutting boards and mats, they loved the look. And we did a whole wall of mirrors in the powder room, which everyone was worried would be hard to install or would show water splashes, but it's a great look.

Q: What's your advice for buying pieces of artwork for your home?

A: Buy the art you love; don't buy what I call decorating art. If you buy a piece for a specific space or to match a room, it's always stuck in that place. When you buy art that you love, you'll probably always love it, and it can go with you from place to place or room to room.

Q: Do you ever start from scratch when it comes to renovating?

A: It's so easy to get caught up in trends and the look or color of the moment. I would never come in and redo a house or a room all at once. That will soon become dated. Invest in pieces you love and that are meaningful, and update as you go.