

Wild for...

# Rainbows

Let the eternal symbol of optimism inspire you to look on the bright side.

For a pleasing-to-the-eye arrangement, sort book spines by color.

Designer Mark D. Sikes dreamed up this happy space in Birmingham, AL.

PHOTOGRAPH PRODUCED FOR THEFRANCESFLAIR.COM.





Colorful Personality  
**RAGAN CAIN**

TAKE THE TRIP. WEAR THE HAT. RIDE THE BIKE. USE THE SILVER.

That's the mantra of Ragan Cain's blog and lifestyle brand The Frances Flair (*thefrancesflair.com*), which is named, like herself, after her maternal grandmother, Frances Ragan. "Frances was a strong woman before it was en vogue for women to be strong," she says. It's clear Ragan comes by her boldness—in this case, an unapologetic love of color, pattern, and patina—honestly, and she shares her colorful musings from her cheerful yellow home, Breeze Hill Farm, situated on nine scenic acres in Birmingham, Alabama. (Those are her bookshelves on page 13.) Her Instagram feed (*@thefrancesflair*) is equally delightful.

SEE PAGE 16 FOR MORE VIBRANT FEEDS TO FOLLOW.

*Real-Life Rainbow Sightings*

There are endless ways to embrace the trend at home, whether it's paint or Pyrex. Here, four spaces that span the spectrum



**STRIPED ACCENT WALL**

Blogger Kelly Mindell (*studiodiy.com*) used a three-inch roller to paint perfectly imperfect stripes on her office exterior.



**OMBRE COLLECTION**

Esther Lee (*@vampyrex*) arranged her (very enviable!) Pyrex in an eye-catching ROYGBIV arrangement.



**UPLIFTING STAIR RISERS**

Ashley Wilson (*athomewithashley.com*) spent \$375 on her stairwell redo, then cleverly echoed the colors in the artwork.



**WHIMSICAL WINDSOR CHAIRS**

For a "flea market look," Kelli Mullins (*lollyjane.com*) used DecoArt's Americana Decor paints on craft-room seating.

**A RAINBOW FOR EVERY ROOM**

Going top-to-bottom with this trend could veer "kindergarten classroom," but a pop here and there is more joyful than juvenile.

**BACKYARD**



**Beach Paddles** \$30; *sunnylife.com*

**BEDROOM**



**Stripe Wallpaper** \$188 per double roll; *katiekime.com*

**CLOSET**



**Beaded Drop Earrings** \$26; *mulberry-grand.com*

**KITCHEN**

**HUE KNEW?**

The first national full-color broadcast was the Tournament of Roses parade on January 1, 1954.

**HUE KNEW?**

The Guinness World Record for the longest-lasting rainbow on record (8 hours, 58 minutes) goes to a rainbow in Taiwan in 2017.



**Stripe Drum Shade** \$88; *schoolhouse.com*

**Poppy Dress** \$298; *persifor.com*



**Retro Mini Fridge** \$1,595; *bigchill.com*



**Color Wheel Umbrella** \$50; *burkedecor.com*



**Wood Headboard** \$122 for a twin; *walmart.com*



**Rainbow Sneakers** \$65; *zappos.com*



**Melamine Mixing Bowls** \$60 for 6; *williams-sonoma.com*



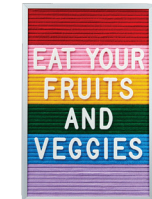
**Spectrum Chalk Set** \$30; *fredericksandmae.com*

**Wool Pendleton Blanket** \$259; *urbanoutfitters.com*



**HUE KNEW?**

This year, NYC's American Museum of Natural History turns 150! Its vibrant new exhibition, *The Nature of Color*, is part of the celebration.



**Rainbow Letterboard** \$100; *threepotatofour.com*



**Adirondack Chair** \$310; *wayfair.com*

**HUE KNEW?**

The song "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" was originally cut from *The Wizard of Oz*.



**Transport Tote** \$178; *madewell.com*



**Indoor/Outdoor Rug** \$50 for 2'-by-3'; *annieselke.com*

PHOTOGRAPHY: MARY MARGARET SMITH; ROOMS BY (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) JEFF MINDELL; ESTHER LEE; LOLLIJANE.COM; RUTH CROZIER/DEVELOPING BLISS PHOTOGRAPHY.

ILLUSTRATION: JULIA LUDLAP; POPPY DRESS AND LETTERBOARD: IAN PALMER.

## Local Color 2.0

The country is one big kaleidoscope! Plan your next trip accordingly. #willbrakeforbrights



### COLORFUL EXHIBITS

This interactive **Color Factory** (now in NYC and Houston; [colorfactory.co](http://colorfactory.co)) is a photogenic playground.



### COLORFUL HISTORY

Known as **Rainbow Row**, Charleston, SC's East Bay Street is filled with pastel-hued Georgian row houses.



### COLORFUL BACK ROADS

Research **barn-quilt trails** near you to take in these colossal canvases gracing rural structures.



### COLORFUL DIGS

From vintage emporium **The Fine Art of Design** to the **Saguaro Hotel**, Palm Springs, CA, is a true bright spot.

## FIELD NOTES

### How to Dye Fabric with Fruits & Vegetables

It's easier than you think! Use a ratio of 2 cups water to every 2 cups produce. Don gloves, then place chopped raw ingredients in a pot of water; bring to a boil. Let stand 5 to 10 minutes so the colors can seep out. Add a fixative (either salt or white vinegar), then add your prewashed natural fabric.

#### Natural Red Dye

Beets and Raspberries

#### Natural Orange Dye

Yellow Onion Skins

#### Natural Yellow and Ochre Dyes

Lemon and Orange Peels

#### Natural Green Dye

Spinach Leaves

#### Natural Blue Dye

Blueberries and Blackberries

#### Natural Purple Dye

Red Cabbage

## Fun Feeds FOLLOW THE RAINBOW

For a daily mood boost, look no further than these creative Instagrammers serving up candy-colored content.



**JENNIFER LAKE**  
[@jenniferlake](https://www.instagram.com/jenniferlake)



**SAM USHIRO**  
[@aww.sam](https://www.instagram.com/aww.sam)



**BRITTANY WATSON JEPSN**  
[@houselarsbuilt](https://www.instagram.com/houselarsbuilt)

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