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HOME AND LIFESTYLES | KANSAS CITY



INTERIORS WITH PURPOSE

KARIN ROSS DIGS DEEP TO FIND THE UNIQUE IN DESIGN.

As a young woman in Northern Italy, Karin Ross didn't intend to be an interior designer. Rather, she discovered that she should be one.

"At the time, I was a runway model. My friend's mother owned an interior design studio. She staged homes, and I would help her to earn extra money," she says.

"There was a moment when the order for the furniture to stage a home got screwed up and no one knew what to do," Ross remembers. "I made a quick call to a shop to tell them which pieces we would need to finish the job, but I did it without any sort of approval."

When the shop owner called the next day and said to come in right away, Ross thought her prospects of continued employment were perilously slim. But, when she arrived, she found her boss talking with the affluent customer whose home Ross had staged.

And he was exuberant—so much so that he wanted Ross to handle all his future interior design needs. She'd earned her first

account, and her employer offered to pay for her to attend design school in France.

That's where she met her future husband—an American and third-generation general contractor—and the couple eventually settled in Kansas City. Today, they operate as a dynamic, highly sought-after design-and-build team specializing in bathroom, kitchen, and flooring remodels.

"I'm a very good listener," she explains, "and I'm very particular about what I sell. We're not here to sell clients what they saw on HGTV. It's about purpose. If you say, 'I want purple walls,' I want to understand exactly why. I really dig deep into your philosophy."

"My forte is that I'll give you enough unique pieces that the look is only yours and it flows," Ross emphasizes. "I'll give you value, function, and a timeless kitchen. I'm not in for quick fixes. I'll give you a dream kitchen that you can use for years to come."

