

OPPOSITES ATTRACT

SPREAD SOME CHEER

Whether soft and buttery or bright and lemony, yellow radiates sunshine. And pale gray, like the light on a cloudy day, has a subdued effect. "It's a real story of opposites attract," says Huntington, New York, interior designer Eileen Boyd. "Happy yellow tempered by somber slate conveys sophistication." Creating a room with the two colors is simple. "Stick to the two-third, one-third rule—make gray the dominant hue and you can't go wrong," Boyd says.

GRAY'S ANATOMY. "Think of a smoky shade as a neutral that unifies the room," Boyd says.

"Great for the walls, it makes it easy to switch out yellow if you want to play with other colors."

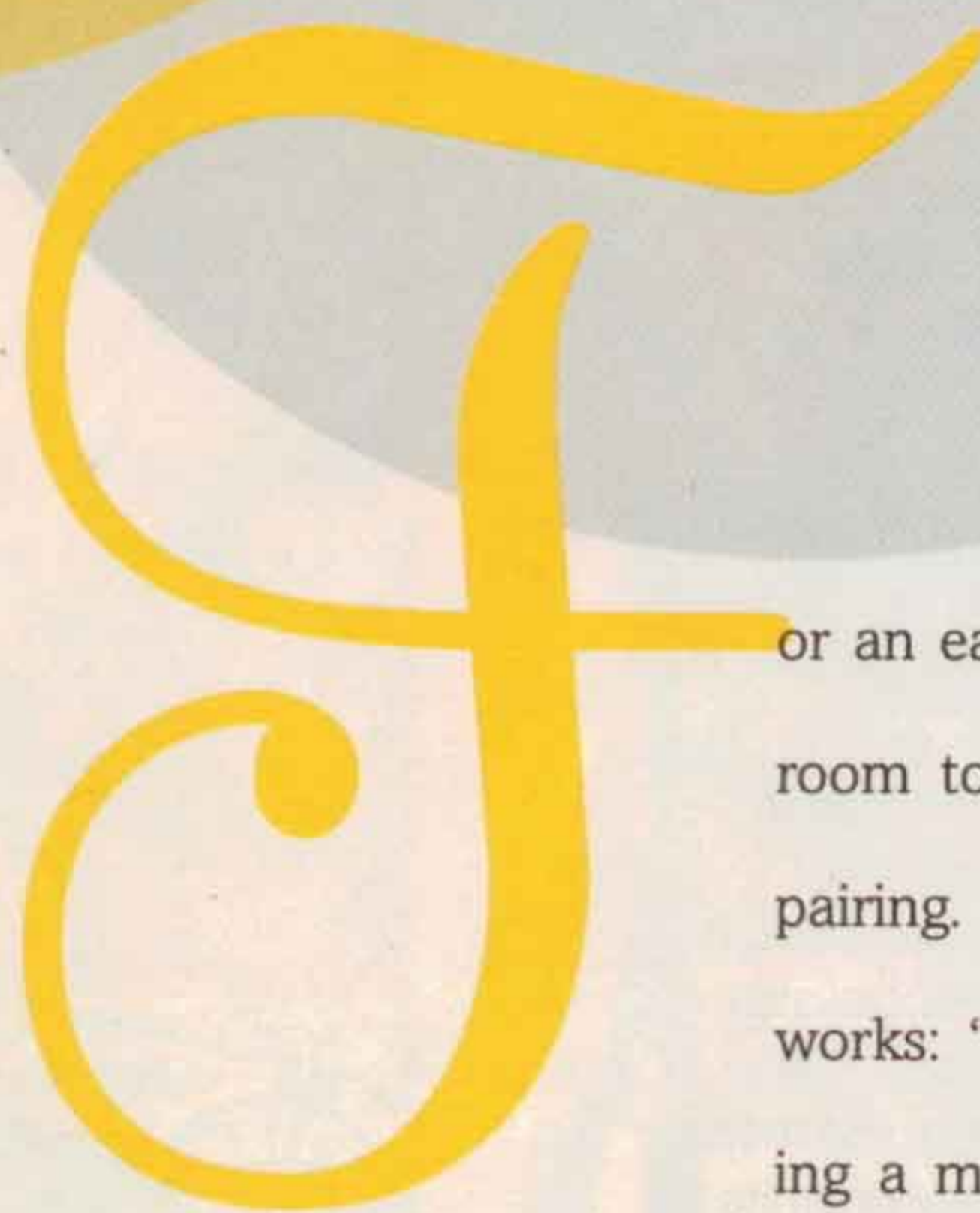
POP GO THE ACCESSORIES.

Chairs, plates and a rug in bright lemon infuse verve into a driftwood-colored theme. "The effect is young, fresh and very now," Boyd says.

LIGHT FANTASTIC. Boyd suggests overhead lighting in a kitchen.

"Under direct illumination the golden hues really glow."

MIX IT UP. Set the table with stainless-steel cutlery, mercury-glass lighting and other shiny objects to give sparkle and depth to homespun linens.



For an easy way to pull a room together, try color pairing. Here's how it works: "Begin by choosing a main color for the

walls that suits the room's function or goes along with the mood you want to create," says color consultant Lee Eisman of colorexpert.com. For example, do you want the room to feel laid-back or energizing? Next, introduce a compatible hue for balance or contrast. There are many ways to do this—with linens on a bed, for example, or fabric or accent pillows on a sofa. What shades work best? The experts say that this season there are three color pairings to watch and swatch—yellow/gray, green/purple and blue/orange. Read on for their colorful advice.