

I was already feeling despondent with the idea of having to go and do battle at the usual mega-home ware store to fit out my new house, when Bya of Category of 1 Interiors offered to save me the trip and help us with all of our soft furnishings. I happily agreed - I was already feeling overwhelmed by the job.

I had not given much thought to the design of the place and planned to defer to my usual 'white is right' scheme, when Bya invited me to come over to her huge store and talk through some ideas. I was short of time and also a bit nervous about using a designer so I felt very relieved when Bya had prepared some ideas which, miraculously fit our tastes. The initial costs were very reasonable and Bya ensured that we stayed within our budgets. I was really impressed by the way she'd picked up on our likes and dislikes as a family. Particularly since she'd only met us briefly. Not only had she correctly read us as people (meaning: we're not very exciting design wise) but she cleverly helped us take a few 'risks' by incorporating our old fabrics from our old house with her new and fresh designs. In this way we felt as though we had the best of our old house and also the benefit of the new.

I began to trust her judgment and leave more and more decisions to her knowing that she'd interpreted us very well. This is where Category of 1 Interiors really began to show how different it was from the "other mega-home ware store". I was consulted every step of the way and even though if I was unable to get to the store to check things she would send over samples and ideas. I barely broke a stride as I unpacked!

The final and most incredible surprise was the speed at which everything happened. I imagined I'd be waiting weeks for the results, however, my couch was recovered and delivered within just 48 hours!!! The window treatments were installed just a short time after. Again, all this was achieved the minimum of fuss. Of course since Bya had intelligently and respectfully pushed me out of my usual 'white is right' mode so the final product is both fun and impressive. Her team supported my every need and they definitely changed the whole moving experience from a stressful and strange time to a happy and special one.

I just can't recommend Bya's service highly enough. I have lived in China for 10 years and have simply NEVER experienced what Bya and the team at Category of 1 provided. They did far more than was expected of them and lost no opportunity to anticipate and meet my needs. It exceeded all my expectations and I'm truly grateful for her experience, quality and dedication to our needs. She saw things we were blind to and the results will give us pleasure for a long time to come!

Thank you sincerely Bya and Team!

Anita Cabell
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