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Superior Style And Design For Kitchen And Bath

Personalizing your kitchen or bathroom can be done in many ways. After all, families spend large quantities of time in both rooms, so you should enjoy them to the fullest. The most important thing to remember is that the rooms should reflect your taste—a favorite color, a collection of items you already own or hardware that creates just the right accents.

One easy way to personalize your room is to use faux painting, which creates texture or visual interest. There are several techniques that can be used throughout the home, including color washing, sponging and ragging—and all of them are easy enough so that even first-timers can create beautiful accents.

Another easy idea is stenciling a border. Don't limit

yourself to stenciling on a wall. This technique also works well on floors (simply protect your masterpiece with a few coats of polyurethane). You can create your own design or buy a precut template.

Adding a backsplash design or a dramatic color scheme is another idea. There are thousands of tile murals already available, or if you're looking for a unique, one-of-a-kind scene, you may want to have one custom designed.

And though you may not give much thought to knobs, pulls and handles, it's important to remember that these items are the hands-on aspect of a room—what give a kitchen or bathroom its "feel."

