**10 Tips on achieving a home reflective of one’s personal style:**

1. **Identify your lifestyle.** Style is often a reflection of your own personality and your own choices. Planning ahead in mind helps you avoid making changes that eventually ruin the design later.
2. **Eliminate items that are not you.** Bask in your own personal style and get rid of the items that you keep out of a sense of obligation rather than enjoyment. Clear your clutter to make space for things and pieces you truly love.
3. **Plan your space to maximize it visually and physically.** A well-thought and proportioned layout can make a small space look larger, or an odd-shaped room look more balanced. Remember, great design elements can never correct a badly laid floor plan.
4. **Create a flow that highlights the design elements.** Lay out your areas to produce a “visual choreography,” where every turn and every angle presents a new visual interest. Create focal points in places such as the end of a corridor or a wall framed by two windows by placing interesting artwork and emphasizing them with proper lighting.
5. **Play with lighting to create mood.** Different types of lighting—whether natural or artificial—used in varying combinations can enhance your spaces. Window treatments will filter light in and add drama to an otherwise bland space, while translucent or textural partitions that can create a visual feast when highlighted by light.
6. **Be consistent with your style.** Do not mix up too many things in one space; an assortment of design elements may turn into visual clutter. A coherent and individual theme throughout your home will establish a clear definition of your style.
7. **Don’t be a “fashion victim.**” Being too trendy will give you a cookie-cutter look and will make your spaces too dated (or outdated!) or a mere replica or your neighbor’s. Purchasing a few contemporary pieces or updating your color scheme can bring you into the present.
8. **Stick to a consistent color combination.** Although an extremely playful color scheme is possible, keep the quantity of hues to a minimum. Too many variations within a scheme can create visual disharmony.
9. **Invest in art pieces that express your individuality.** While an art piece’s future value is an important factor, bear in mind that its main function is to be viewed in a way that it enhances your spaces and gives you delight. Consider scale, color and texture when choosing artwork.
10. **Be adventurous, explore new possibilities.** Play with design elements by using materials and forms in an unconventional manner. One of the best things about design is that there are really no hard and fast rules!