

## At Home in the Office

By Julie Ann Segal

I was first contacted by my client Marybeth to help with her living room. But that changed at our first appointment. While she was showing me around, we took a look at her home office, and started talking about how it wasn't working. When I stepped in to take a look, I immediately noticed how heavy and cramped it felt. Too many large pieces and clutter created a feeling of overwhelm.



Before

The office redesign took priority. I wanted to help her make this a space where she could be productive, and feel good about being in.

The end result is an impressive transformation. "Prior to the redesign, my office was a disorganized mess that really said nothing about me. I tended to use it as a catch-all for things I didn't know what to do with," tells Marybeth.

Now, she says it feels so much better working in there. "It's well-organized, bright and seems to flow in the way it's laid out."

To remove clutter and the "heavy" feeling, two large bookcases and the couch were removed, and lots of time was spent decluttering.

The warm neutral color on the walls is soothing. A cozy rug and upholstered chair create a relaxing reading area, and a large piece of art creates a focal point. A piece I was delighted to help her find, it makes Marybeth feel happy.

*"I absolutely love my new office!  
It says something about me and who I am."*

~ Marybeth

A new desk, relocated to the "command position" in the room (a more powerful placement, according to Feng Shui) is also less weighty, but allows for more workspace. We upgraded her desk chair to a high-back leather one. In total, this setup was intentional, for an enhanced feeling of being in control.

We also gave Marybeth plenty of places for storage. Now the things she does use and need don't have to be cluttering things up. On the windows we replaced metal blinds with woven roman shades, also

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After

with a natural look. They're cordless, so nothing hangs in front of the beautiful backyard view, and they feel much lighter.

In the end, we accomplished our goal of creating a space for Marybeth that is conducive to work and also enjoyable. She says, "My work attitude and feeling of what the office is has definitely changed—I like to be there even when I'm not working. It doesn't feel only like an office but is actually a relaxing place to be."



*Julie Ann Segal, Interior Designer and President of Metro Interiors, is renowned for her deep commitment to providing clients with state-of-the-art design. Always on the cutting edge, Julie Ann's dynamic approach utilizes all resources within reach.*

*For over 25 years, Julie Ann has enjoyed taking the stress out of making design changes. Eclectic to classic, modern to traditional—there is nothing she and her team will not do to create that "wow factor" that has exceeded clients' expectations for over two decades. A Certified Feng Shui consultant, Julie Ann infuses elements of this ancient art into all design endeavors, revealing environments rich in comfort, beauty, balance, and harmony.*

*For more information on Julie Ann, and how your space can change your life, visit [www.metrointeriors.com](http://www.metrointeriors.com). To schedule a design consultation or inquire about services, email [julie@metrointeriors.com](mailto:julie@metrointeriors.com) or call 952.920.2827.*

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