

## **DESIGN ON A DIME CHAPTER CONTENTS**

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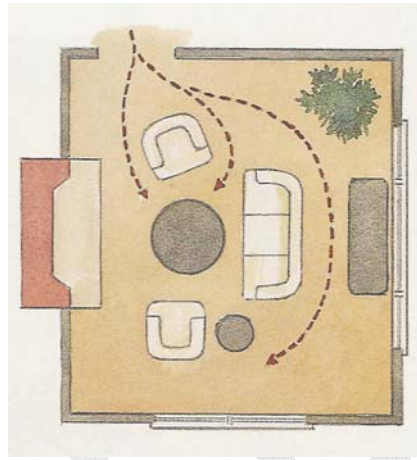
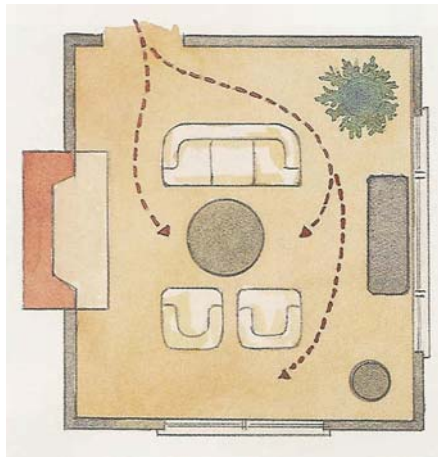
## **SAMPLE PAGES – EXCERPT FROM CHAPTER 8**

### **THE BASICS OF ROOM ARRANGEMENT**

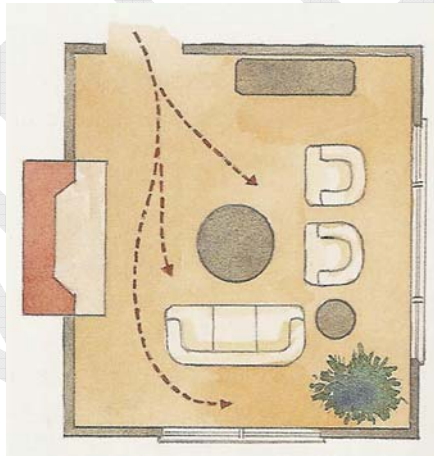
**Take Traffic Patterns into Consideration:** You can direct the flow of traffic through a room with the placement of your furniture. You must consider doors, windows, fireplaces and heating/cooling units when finding the natural flow. Leave a minimum of two and a half feet (36" is ideal) for walkways and avoid flowing traffic through a conversation grouping if possible. Guide the traffic around the room's perimeter to create a less disruptive environment.

Do not arrange furniture too far away from a focal point (refer to previous chapter to determine focal point), particularly a television or fireplace. Nor should you put all the furniture against a wall or on one side of a room. For a good conversation area, make sure the furniture is arranged so people will not be more than 10 feet apart.

At the same time, do not put furniture pieces so close together that traffic is blocked in the room or at entrances and exits (see diagram below). In arranging the furniture, avoid the mistake of placing everything against the wall. Be bold. Set sofas or area rugs on angles--it is more visually interesting.



These three Traffic patterns show the various ways you can arrange the same furnishings and keep the traffic flow open. Functionality is usually the deciding factor.



**Form Follows Function:** The design statement “Form Follows Function,” is very true, so your room must properly function first and foremost. When you have properly arranged the room, the space will feel balanced and comfortable.