

The TV Styling Cheat Sheet for Modern Living Rooms

Five fixes you can apply this weekend

Five steps to soften the black box

1 Lower the line of sight

Place the TV no more than 4 inches above the top of the seated viewer's eye line. Most people sit 38 to 42 inches off the floor; centre the TV at roughly 48 inches.

2 Anchor with a low, wide console

A console at least 1.5 times wider than the TV grounds it. Walnut, oak and matte black all read more like furniture than a TV stand.

3 Style the console in odd numbers

Three or five objects of varying heights (a vase, a stack of books, a small lamp) pull the eye away from the screen.

4 Build a frame around it

A salon gallery wall or floating shelves on either side make the TV one element among many, not the focal point.

5 Choose a matte or frame style screen

Matte anti glare panels and picture frame TVs (Samsung Frame, Hisense CanvasTV) disappear when off.

6 Add a runner of art on top

A long horizontal print on the wall above blurs the rectangle's hard top edge.

7 Hide the cables

Run cables through a recessed in wall channel kit (under \$30) or a fabric covered cord raceway.