

The Haven Maven

By JANICE O'LEARY

Designer and blogger Kyle Elizabeth Freeman creates heavenly homes.



As owner of Cloud 9 Redesign and a blogger for apartmenttherapy.com, 35-year-old Kyle Elizabeth Freeman understands that simplifying one's home is about letting go. Many of her clients are perfectionists living in chaos, she says – when they don't have the perfect system for organizing their belongings, they get paralyzed. She tries to help people say “no” more often and set boundaries without feeling guilty. Her two favorite tips: Label everything from closet shelves to bathroom cubbies, and keep sticky-notes in the car in case brilliant ideas spring to mind.



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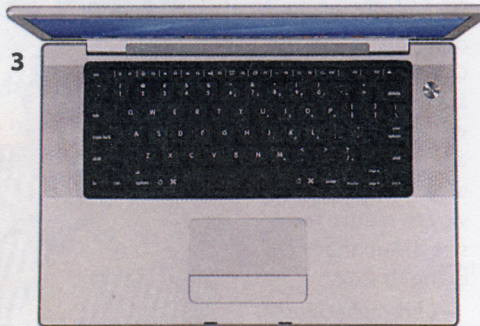
I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT . . .

1. I'm not a fluffy, small dog kind of person, but I couldn't live without **Arlo, my Pekepoo**. I love when he comes dashing under the covers in the morning when I call him.
2. The fresh, homemade soups made from local produce at the **Ula Cafe** in Jamaica Plain.
3. I'm addicted to my silver **Apple laptop**. My whole business is on there. I can blog from anywhere with it.
4. I would grab my **upholstery gun** in a fire. I have a chemical sensitivity to paints, so I cover everything in my home in fabric instead – from chairs to bookshelves.
5. I'm always amazed that more people don't use the backs of their doors for storage. **Shoe pockets** are great for organizing socks, your junk drawer, even jewelry.
6. My **rosewood hoop earrings**, crafted by a local acoustic guitar maker from his residual wood. You can check them out at woodearrings.etsy.com.
7. **Zimman's** two floors of beautiful fabrics in Lynn is the closest thing we have to New York City's textile emporiums.
8. For affordable antiques, I comb through the pieces at the **Massachusetts Antique Cooperative** in Waltham. I found a wonderful 7-foot-wide decorative fan for \$12 there that I put on my wall.
9. The **love letters** my grandfather wrote my grandmother during their 1925 courtship. He saved all the ones he wrote to her. I'm a sap, just like he was.
10. For many of my clients, I use **Benjamin Moore's Aura line of interior paints** because of their low volatile organic compound rating.



Photo/George Rizer

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