Home: design | They are guaranteed to improve the décor,

I AM VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE A wonderful granddog. Her name is Java, and my son rescued her at the pound in Los Angeles. She's a Labrador mix, has a wonderful, calm disposition, smiles all day, sheds like crazy and she's allowed to sleep anywhere in my apartment she wants. She follows the sun. In the morning, she basks in the sunshine under the dining table, and later she migrates to my bedroom and relaxes next to my bed. On my bed I have beautiful white Egyptian cotton sheets and an exquisite white duvet cover. My friends warn me, but so far, she has not invaded. Dogs at home—absolutely. They are guaranteed to improve the décor, the feng shui and to give you a happy attitude to life.

Diane Dorrans Saeks is the best-selling author of 12 books on interior design, including San Francisco Interiors and California Cottages. She also writes for W and Departures magazines and the San Francisco Chronicle.



While I love my dog dearly, I often have visitors (clients, friends, colleagues) who unfortunately don't feel the same way. That is why I trained Dolby-my five-year-old Jack Russell Terrier-not to jump up on the furniture, other than my bed. There's nothing more traumatic for a fashionconscious New Yorker dressed in headto-toe black than getting up from a sofa or chair only to find that he/she is covered in white, fuzzy dog fur. Dolby has lots of colorful blankets and dog beds (my favorite is his Good Dog Bed from George, in San Francisco) which all look great, but stay on the floor.

Interior designer **Sheila Bridges** is currently decorating former president Bill Clinton's new office in Harlem.

IF YOUR HOME IS HEATED BY RADIANT floor heat, that can be cozy for your pup. However, it is a good idea to have the installer vary the radiant tubes so that there are cooler and hotter sections in the slab near your best friend's digs. Some dog paws are more or less heat-sensitive, and a variety of heat levels gives them an option for where they want to sit. If you have a new concrete slab, concrete stains are now readily available from some manufacturers, such as Scofield and Sovig. These stains penetrate to form rich earth tones and are easy to maintain if sealed according to manufacturer's directions. ARQ used Scofield's "Padre Brown" in much of the new San Francisco SPCA Maddie's Pet Adoption Center.

Lucy Shlaffer is a principal of ARQ Architects with offices in Kittery, Maine, and San Francisco.