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AUGUST 2019

# Room Rx

NOT SURE HOW TO WORK AROUND THOSE TRICKY SPOTS IN YOUR HOME?

ERIN GATES, INTERIOR DESIGNER AND AUTHOR OF *ELEMENTS OF FAMILY STYLE*, OFFERS HER EXPERT ADVICE.

By Stephanie Sisco

**Q:**

I want to put a sectional in our family room for extra seating, but I'm not sure how to position it or design around it. Help!  
—Julie, homeowner in Tampa, Florida



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**1**

#### GO WITH THE FLOW

Choose a right- or left-facing chaise based on the layout of the room. It should sit on the far side of the entrance to prevent it from interrupting the flow of traffic. **TO BUY:** Dryden 2-Piece Sectional with Nailheads, \$2,899; crateandbarrel.com.

**2**

#### DIVERSIFY YOUR DECOR

When choosing additional seating, mix in a different style to keep the room from feeling one-note. So if your sectional has simple lines, try chairs with tufting or a pattern. **TO BUY:** Keisha Wingback Chair, \$499; birchlane.com.

**3**

#### PAIR OFF

Place two pillows in each corner of the sofa. For a corner sectional, you'll use six pillows total. For a chaise-style option, you'll use just four. **TO BUY:** Aegean Key Throw Pillow in Navy, \$44; wayfair.com.

**4**

#### BREAK IT UP

If the sectional floats in an open-concept space, set a console table against the exposed back. That will break up the expanse of upholstery and provide storage. **TO BUY:** Everett Foyer Table, \$330; worldmarket.com.

Submit your own design dilemmas to [room.rx@realsimple.com](mailto:room.rx@realsimple.com).