

# Décor

THE MOST  
GORGEOUS  
ROOMS  
EVER

BACK BY  
POPULAR  
DEMAND!  
SECOND PRINTING

Spring/Summer 2011  
Display until May 3

\$12.99 U.S.



meredith Specials®

Rediscover Elegance  
Top Designers Share Their Secrets

# Family Traditions

Designed to meet the needs of a busy young family, an Atlanta-area townhouse showcases the beauty that comes from partnering comfort with elegance.

styling by Amy Elliott photography by Bob Babb produced by Robert Tracy

Decor  
30



A 17th-century Italian Baroque walnut credenza, iron candelsticks, and stacks of antique books give the dining room a comforting patina. Mixed-media art by Pam Mosley serves as a modern counterpoint.



**This photo:** Dramatic aubergine walls create an intimate backdrop for entertaining in the dining room, while a pair of French reproduction chairs serve as curvy bookends to the antique table.

**Opposite:** The three-level townhouse is part of a pedestrian-friendly community developed by Pam Sessions of Hedgewood Properties in the historic town of Woodstock, near Atlanta.

# Furnishings that can withstand

rough-and-tumble kids' activities are a necessity in any home with young children, but designer Barbara Westbrook believes creating a calm and comforting surrounding is equally as important. With that in mind, she selected neutral backdrops enlivened with splashes of color from artwork, pillows, and accessories as the blueprint for transforming a new three-level townhouse in a community 20 miles north of Atlanta into a family home.

The public areas of the 3,000-square-foot townhouse—which was designed by Westbrook for the *Traditional Home* Built for Women Showhouse—all use the same colors, but in different ways. In the living room, cream-colored walls are accented by a pair of deep plum-colored upholstered chairs. The adjoining dining room reverses the color order; chairs draped with natural linen slipcovers pop against rich eggplant walls. Two-tone ceramic tiles on the range wall in the kitchen continue the contrast of the dark and light hues.

"The main space is all open, so we needed to make sure the color flowed while allowing each area to have its own identity," Westbrook says. "I like mixing dark finishes with lighter ones so it looks like pieces were collected over time rather than someone buying everything at once."

Antique pieces—such as the honey-hue Belgian dining table, an Italian walnut credenza, and antique wool-covered sofa pillows—further the illusion of graceful age and are surprisingly kid-friendly. After all, a few extra dings only enhance the patina of a weathered antique. The living room sofa is also dressed in a chic white slipcover, making accidental spills easy to wash out.

The kitchen follows suit with kid-friendly fixtures. Quartz-surface countertops in soothing mocha are easy to wipe clean and won't stain. A center island divides the kitchen, with a cooking and prep zone on one side and countertop seating where children can do homework on the other. A stainless-steel refrigerator with twin narrow doors won't block traffic when open, and it takes less muscle for little ones to open. Solid-wood

flooring makes cleanup easy while providing a warm backdrop for the cream cabinets.

Family life may swirl in the kitchen area, but the third-level bedrooms are designed to soothe. Soft gray walls, draperies, and a chaise longue set a restful mood in the master suite. A white duvet and monogrammed pillow shams are classically simple, while an antique rug in warm pumpkin and turquoise hues introduces a rich dose of color. Walls painted chocolate warm one child's room while a green-and-cream-striped shade adds fuss-free panache, proving yet again that kids and high style can get along comfortably.



In the living room, fifty  
dramatic details—such as  
distlike lampshades and button  
embellishments on hand-drawn  
draperies—soften the square  
edges of the fireplace, ottoman,  
coffee table, and railroad-tread  
side chairs.





Above: The informal arrangement of a series of antique convex mirrors adds a modern edge to the master bedroom, where traditional features, such as taffeta draperies and monogrammed linens, reign. Underfoot, an antique Oushak rug introduces a subtle warmth. "The rug just glows," designer Barbara Westbrook says. "I think there is a serenity to the space, and part of that comes from using neutrals. You feel enveloped in this really warm gray color, and the pop comes in the area rug."



Clockwise from top left: Cozy comfort rules in this child's room, with its ruddy, soft area rug and snugly daybed. A balcony accessed via French doors off the living room provides an opportunity to enjoy Georgia's mild weather year-round. Opposite the master bed, an antique armoire conceals the modern amenities of an entertainment system. An antique Italian chair upholstered in aubergine cashmere and paired with a 17th-century Italian trestle table serves as a mini foyer to the second-floor living room. The organic Arts and Crafts-inspired pattern on the kitchen's backsplash tile, which was created by inlaying a darker clay into a pale bisque base, forms a textured backdrop for cream-colored maple cabinets. To add a "wow" factor, Westbrook combined mixed-media art with antiques, such as this iron bench, throughout the house.

