

CHARLOTTE URBAN

HOME

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Designs | Lifestyles | Fashions | Improvements

THE NEW
BOLD
SOUTH

URBAN
BEACH
STYLE

THE TRANSITIONAL
**KITCHEN
AND BATH**

Jim Schmid Photography



BETH KEIM

Mixing styles, textures, patterns, metals and colors are all part of giving any room interest and personality.

Dinner on the 14th Tee

I have always said that “anything goes” when it comes to design and breaking the rules is something I can do comfortably. However, in the case of the Grams’ Quail Hollow home, tradition was the rule and I stuck to it like glue. A true dining room is traditionally formal and most often it’s opposite the living room as you enter the home. The Grams’ wanted a formal dining room, and truly, it was in keeping with the look of the house.

I was asked to help transform this once dated room to a lighter and brighter space with updated beautiful furniture, a new look for the walls and new accessories. There were two goals set at the start: to design a cohesive look that ties to the ex-

isting rooms and home style and to complete the project before the Wells Fargo Championship – being on the 14th tee, the Grams’ would have some guests.

Shari Grams is one of my favorite clients, her excitement and enthusiasm is contagious. I put together several design boards to give she and her husband, David, a visual on how to create a traditional look. I gave it a bit of an edge with the accessories to keep it fresh and new, avoiding the often stuffy feel a traditional dining room can bring.

It’s my opinion that when creating a traditional look, the finishes on the dining table and break-

front, or sideboard, should jive. I chose a new oval table and china cabinet - though this cabinet is multi-functional - with the same finish, blending it beautifully with her existing console. The “edge” I wanted to incorporate was created with the geometric pattern overlay on the cabinet, where I used a cream color to accentuate the detail and add a modern touch. Shari loved the graphic pattern against the more organic wallpaper so much that we continued the pattern in a new foyer runner.

The palette of cream, tan and gold created a soothing, sophisticated look that highlighted the rich, dark furniture and really made it stand out. The robin’s egg blue provided a subtle pop of color, which beautifully complimented the formal living room across the hall. These few touches of blue in the artwork (a piece by Carol Boniford, showing at Abode on Tremont Avenue) and the side chairs broke up the monochromatic look and added a bit of whimsy.

When I incorporated all of the accessories – the table linens, accent bowls, centerpiece, lamps, mirror, vases and my favorite rubber flowers - the room really came together and looked “finished”. I



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have often mentioned in Urban Home that “it’s all in the details,” and it still rings true. Final touches can be hard to gather, but can be the most satisfying process. Mixing styles, textures, patterns, metals and colors are all part of giving any room interest and personality. While beautiful furniture pieces are an invest-

ment that can stand alone, how you accessorize them is equally important. Take the time to hunt for pieces or repurpose things you have. Bring your formal room down a notch by adding personality. Make it a room everyone is comfortable spending time in and not a room you are afraid to touch!❖

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