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2010
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GUIDE



BONUS: DECORATING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

room service

Pre-Teen and Pretty Fabulous



Beth Keim

In my business I believe a nursery is all about Mom. It's a room women dream of creating to welcome their new baby. It's a beautiful space to soak in some quiet time while a baby is being rocked to sleep or a place to simply gaze at while checking in on a baby during nap time. Nurseries are an exciting thing to create in anticipation. Nurseries should transition easily into a little person's room. Roll in the bed and bide your time.

The teen room is generally the next, well, expense, or should I say long awaited dream - depending on who you ask. By the age of 13, I feel personalities should be expressed and function should rule. Mom appreciates the organization and their daughter's feel a sense of expression and ownership.

Recently, I was asked to help in the completion of a ten-year-old pre-teen room. I was handed three things, brown walls, a fuchsia headboard and a bunch of trophies - my starting point. Emma and her mom, Stacy, were enthusiastic clients and every designer's dream--they had

trust in my skills and wanted to be surprised, so I was free to pull it all together.

Emma was at the age where she appreciated and wanted to take care of her things, and was willing to let go of the stuffed animals having a party on her bed.

The paint color is the last thing you should pick, but in this case it was my starting point. The shape of the headboard was lost in a sea of chocolate and I wanted it to pop. I wanted to create a focal point, which in a bedroom should be the bed. Three main objectives were accomplished, focal point, pattern and a lighter backdrop for a dramatic headboard.

Step One: Gathering your Patterns and Textures

Shop for fabrics first. It makes it easier to pick the wall color. Keep textures, patterns and scale in mind. They need to speak to each other.

Step Two: The Accent Wall

Here it's all about the bed and its backdrop. Ways to achieve my objectives? Hmmmm... Wall color or wall paper, curtain panels maybe, artwork. Remember your scale and make it big and eye catching. Bal-



Ashley Goodwin Photography



ance the bed with side tables and lamps. If space is an issue, try a floor lamp on one side but keep the lamps shades the same.

Step Three: Finishing Touches

Find one good visual. This can be anything that is surprising. In this case it was the trophies. I wanted to display them in a different way, so we painted them all the same color and created memorable, 3-D art. It can be anything, so long as it is grouped in a similar style and color or it's just plain big.

The reveal (my favorite part!) resulted in friends rushing over. It was then I knew I had a happy client. Now, let's talk about boys, shoes and clothes.❖

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