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fresh tradition



h

How times change. Not
long ago, interior design

hipsters frowned on traditional
style. No more. These days,
even cutting-edge decorators
are inspired by the past to
create forward-thinking rooms.

Traditional bedrooms have
moved way beyond ho-hum
period pieces to become
individual statements of
elegant style.

modern magic



furnished with sleek profiles, wrapped in daring palettes, and outfitted with unexpected lighting, accessories, and art, today's best contemporary bedrooms deliver more than high contrast and hip style. They've grown up. Modern bedrooms make waves, but they're just as concerned with comfort, luxury, and serenity.

beyond the pale

An ethereal palette, alluring shapes, and shimmering finishes combine gracefully to create a brilliantly modern master suite where opulent high style is whispered rather than roared. An unusual headboard creates a glamorous focal point and doubles as a wall that creates two cozy areas from one that was too large for comfort.

Photographer Gordon Beall



Dream Bedrooms fall/winter 2006 • 37

Layering window treatments creates comfort and calm. Two sets of creamy panels amplify warmth, softness, and understated luxury.

—designer BARRY DIXON



Serenity reigns in this quietly glamorous modern suite where colors caress, fabrics are soft and silken, and amenities abound. Interior designer Barry Dixon wrapped the room in a palette of celadon, pearl, mist, and gray-blue-green. “I chose the colors of fog to create cloudlike calm,” he says. Dixon was careful to make sure calm didn’t turn comatose. “A master suite should be at little bit sexy,” he says. “I wanted this room to be luminous with an understated opulence.”

The tufted-silk headboard that makes the bed this room’s focal point ensures that status. It also has a practical *raison d’être*: Creating two cozy spaces from a single room that was just too large. Trimmed in nailheads and framed by petite mirror-encrusted night tables, the silk-dressed bed is positioned with a view of a chic sitting area and a flat-screen television mounted on a side wall. The television is revealed when a large mirror decorated

Pages 36–37: A misty palette establishes glamorous serenity. A sensuous quality comes from a silk headboard and a blend of finishes. **Above left:** A track-mounted mirror slides to reveal a flat-panel television. **Above right:** Pale pink flowers add a hint of color to the muted scheme. **Opposite and page 40:** Sitting-area fabrics are soft and monochromatic. **Page 41:** A mirrored demilune table sits beneath the oval “window” on the other side of the pseudo wall that creates two intimate spaces.

with antique bookplates is slid to one side. Three layers of window treatments and a sea-grass rug lend warmth and relaxed texture. Delicate touches of shine introduced by a glass floor lamp and side table, chunky beads on a pendent chandelier, and softly shimmering upholstery fabrics heighten the room’s comfort, richness, and elegantly modern allure.



“A beautiful bedroom is not an indulgence, but rather a smart investment in well-being. To build a room you will want to live in for years to come, a quiet palette is a good place to start.”

—designer BARRY DIXON



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Serenity Now



B

Blissful calm awaits you—or your guests—when bedrooms are designed with a decorating mantra of relaxation and respite. In these uncluttered spaces, a neutral palette, minimal pattern, and soft rugs serve as the backdrop for tailored linens, pared-down upholstered furnishings, and sleek accessories.

open to change

Twin daybeds square off in the center of this intriguing guest bedroom, creating a hub for entertaining and freeing up the room's perimeter for separate sitting and dining areas. The unconventional furniture arrangement visually expands the space, while tall windows lighten the mood.

Photographer Emily J. Followill
Field editor Lisa Mowry



Blues and greens enliven browns and creams in this bedroom, where the color cues come from nature.



Pages 38-39: Silk, damask, velvet, and cotton create a pleasing textural blend on the daybeds. The seam that bisects the two-tone draperies emphasizes the grid on the windows and in the carpet tiles. The upper tier of the window treatments, a lace that features a bird design, lets the sun shine in; fabric on the lower portion has a tighter weave for privacy. **Opposite:** A stylized leaf print makes the connection to the outdoors, as do the light green walls. **Left:** This curvaceous chair near the French door to the terrace is dressed in green velvet in front and taupe leather in back. **Below:** The versatile ottoman is a place to prop a tray or put up feet. Brushed stainless-steel bars detail the ends of the daybeds.



Decorating inspiration can come from many places. Designer Jill Vantosh and her team of associates found their muse in a terrace adjoining this guest bedroom in an Atlanta showhouse. The terrace and the view beyond inspired the earthy palette for the textiles, floor coverings, and artwork that feature birds, leaves, and other natural motifs. "The whole concept was more of a garden room because there's so much light and there's the big adjoining terrace," Vantosh says.

As in nature, elements coordinate rather than identically match. Turquoise button-back antique chairs sidle up to a mod Eero Saarinen café table, perfect for lingering over a good book or a cup of coffee. Contemporary-style backless daybeds are lounges by day and twin sleepers by night. On the floor, geometric carpet tiles contrast with the more formal Oriental rug. The blend of periods and styles is visually satisfying. "Part of our signature look

is that mix," Vantosh says. "Even when we're doing a very contemporary room, we still like to throw in an old carved wood piece or a high-back antique French chair. It's the wild card."

Another wild card was the designers' furniture placement. The daybeds are stationed in the center of the room as sofas would be, facing an ottoman that doubles as a coffee table and nightstand. "People loved this room when they walked in," associate designer Patrick Delanty says. "They were drawn to the openness."

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“The design took visitors by surprise and made them think in a new and different way how a guest bedroom should look.”

—designer JILL VANTOSH



This photo: Vintage details, including the steel-wire occasional table by Warren Platner and the colorful majolica on the shelves, add interest to the sitting area. Opposite: Stylish from all angles, antique chairs wear turquoise silk on the front and pale green on the back. “Those colors are a little bit exaggerated for drama,” associate designer Patrick Delanty says.



clean & crisp



For less than \$1,600, you can make your master bath calming and charming. See how one resourceful couple did it.

White marble replaced black and-white tile on Christi and Spencer Tacy's tub surround. At \$375, the marble tile was the biggest budget item for the couple's master bath makeover.

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Bath Makeovers Spring 2008 15



Spencer and Christi Tacy didn't let limited time or money stand in the way of their bath makeover. In just two weeks and for less than \$1,600, they took the master bath in their 165-year-old upstate New York home from dark and drab to sunny and inviting. Sweat equity and cost-conscious purchases from a home center enabled the couple to keep their budget in line but still afford upgrades such as wood-plank flooring and a custom vanity that Spencer, a home inspector, made.

Prior to the makeover, the bath had purple walls with a pansy wallpaper border. Black-and-white tiles that topped the tub surround and covered the floor looked out of place next to the purple. Natural pine wainscoting engulfed the lower walls and made the 110-square-foot space seem much smaller. "Although 10x11 feet sounds like a comfortably sized bath, the tub takes up a lot of that space, so we did what we could to get maximum efficiency out of the remaining area," Christi says.

Fresh Paint

To lighten the room, the couple chose a soft hue for upper walls and painted the wainscoting bright white so it would stand out. The pine panels required two coats of quality primer followed by two coats of semigloss paint that provides subtle sheen. "A few knots took more coats than that," says Christi. White crown molding replaced the wallpaper border, adding an easy architectural detail that many baths overlook.

Opposite: A new sink—a home center find for \$150—left room in the couple's budget for a \$200 vintage-style nickel faucet.

Top right: Crown molding draws attention to the bath's 9-foot ceiling. The vintage farm ladder came from the couple's barn; Christi painted it black to match the chandelier above the tub.

Right: Jars from Christi's store hold bath salts and soaps. Spencer made the back and doors of the cabinet, positioned behind the bathroom door, from the same pine beaded board he used throughout the room.



For a clean, crisp look
that never goes out of
style, tile your bath
floor and walls.

tile WITH style





bold NEW look

Bright red and orange field tiles sprinkled throughout the tub surround give this bath a fresh look for little cost. To draw more attention to the new tiles, the owner had paint custom-mixed to match the tile, then painted the top half of the bathroom walls with chunky horizontal red and orange stripes. A lighter shade of orange was used on the ceiling.

White-painted beaded board covers the lower half of the walls and keeps the colorful bath looking light. The white octagonal floor tile is original. A vintage chest, converted to hold a vessel sink and plumbing, gives the vanity area interest, while a second freestanding chest pumps up storage. A whimsical chicken lamp, cheerful accessories, and colorful artwork perfect the makeover and make the bath one of the family's favorite rooms.

Resources begins on page 108.

Photographer: Gordan Beall Field editor: Sandra L. Mohlmann

Above left: A combination shelf and towel rack coordinates with the beaded-board wainscoting and provides extra storage.

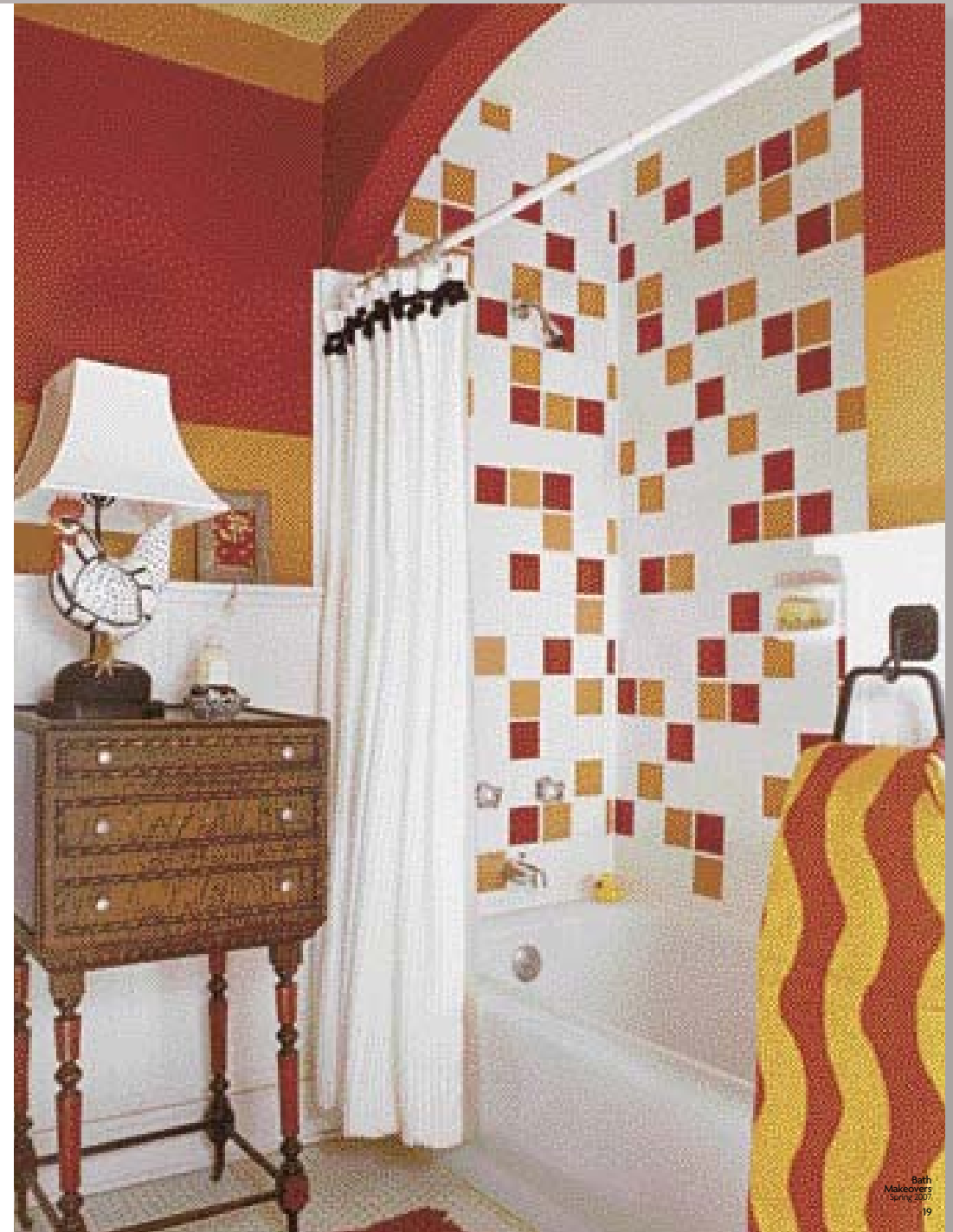
Left: A pine chest converted to hold a sink provides more storage than the original pedestal sink. Because the chest is narrow, the faucet was installed to the right of the sink.

Opposite: The owners eliminated some labor costs by installing the new tiles themselves.

shopping tips

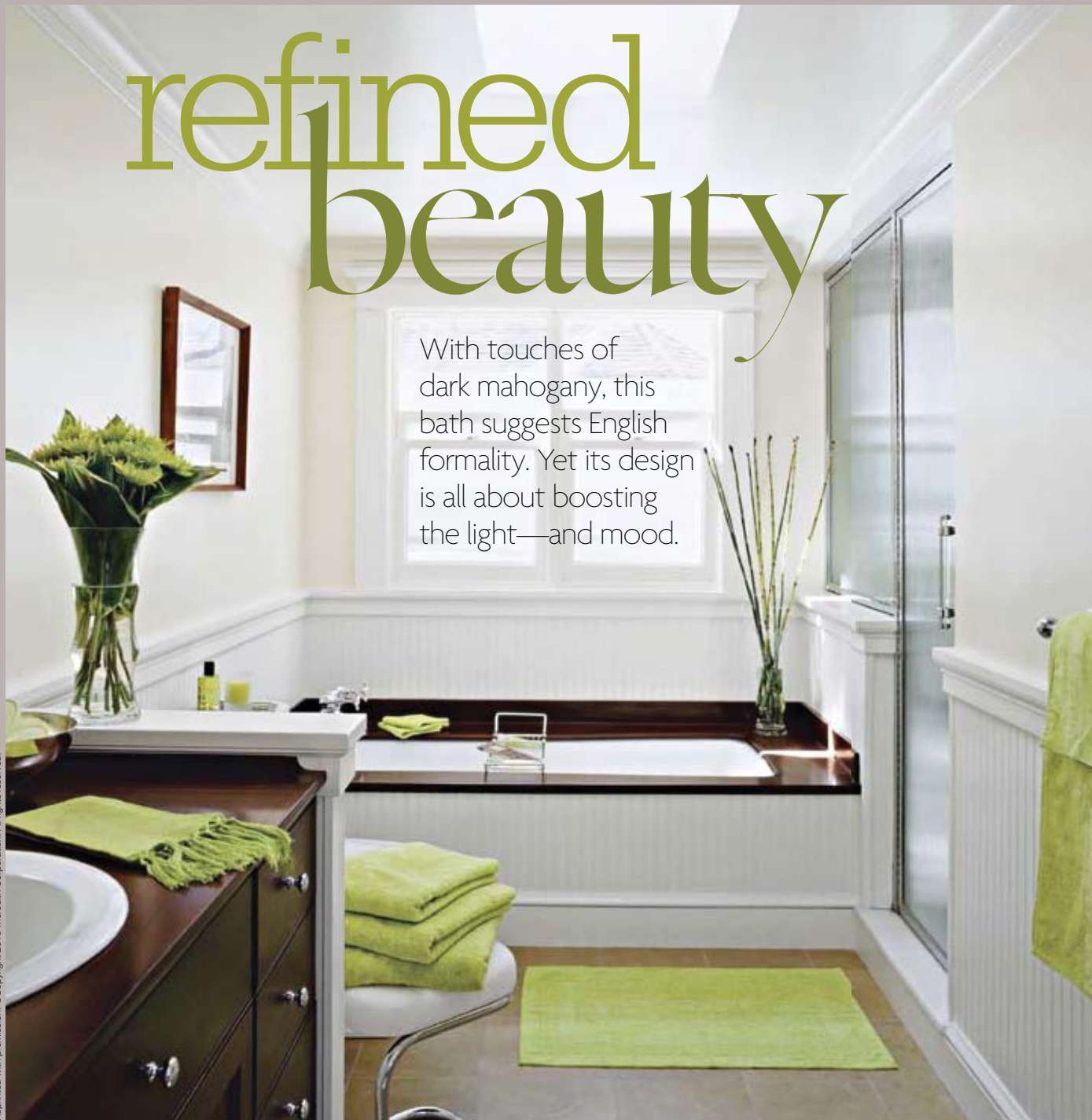
For a custom look at an affordable price, mix and match custom tiles with field tiles.

- IF YOU LOVE THE LOOK of a pricey hand-painted or imported tile, include a few in a random pattern among affordably priced field tiles. You can find basic 4x4-inch white field tiles for less than \$3 a square foot, uninstalled.
- SHOP FOR CUSTOM-PAINTED TILES at online auction houses. Design professionals and homeowners often sell overstocks and extras for reasonable prices.



refined beauty

With touches of dark mahogany, this bath suggests English formality. Yet its design is all about boosting the light—and mood.



Left: Mahogany cabinetry gives this bath a traditional look.
This photo: Attention to details, such as the rounded edges on the wood tub surround, lend richness and quality.

get away & relax

Whether you prefer to tickle your toes with cool waves or cuddle beside a cozy fireplace, these refreshing retreats will take you far away from the everyday.



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A rustic dining room with a wooden table, chairs, and pendant lights. The room features white shiplap walls, three windows with autumn foliage, and a white built-in bench. The table is set with several vases of flowers. The chairs are a mix of dark wood and bright red. The pendant lights are large, dark, and industrial-style. On the right, a white shelving unit holds various ceramic items like mugs and pitchers.

gather together

Pull up a seat, set out some tasty treats, and join in the fun. These welcoming homesteads easily host family and friends.

WORLD TRAVELER



Invite cosmopolitan flair into your kitchen with dynamic influences from around the globe.

PHOTOGRAPHER PHIL HARVEY FIELD EDITOR SARAH ALBA

52 REAL-LIFE Kitchens & Baths



THIS PHOTO: Basic stock cabinets are installed symmetrically to keep the kitchen lines clean.

OPPOSITE: Paisley wallpaper creates an artful backsplash. Tempered glass protects the paper and makes cleaning a snap.

The kitchen is designed for easy traffic flow. Windows above the sink and prep area usher in light.



EVIDENCE OF REBECCA SZETO AND ROGER HAGEN'S GLOBAL JOURNEYS INFUSE THEIR

San Francisco condo with elegance. Mementos from far-flung places such as Italy, Iceland, Argentina, and Chile have found a home throughout the house—including in the newly renovated kitchen.

The result reads like beautiful postcards, but things didn't start out so picture-perfect. The 10x10-foot kitchen "was in a sorry state thanks to numerous patchy updates over the years," Rebecca says. Still, she saw potential, so the kitchen was dismantled down to the studs and reconfigured into a light, airy space with better flow. Moving gas and water lines allowed for the creation of three distinct work zones. "We cook quite a bit but also throw a lot of cocktail parties, so I wanted the kitchen to have the feel of a large bar/entertaining area where guests could circulate," Rebecca says.

Frameless stock cabinets add a modern element without breaking the couple's budget. Virtually indestructible quartz-surfacing countertops add a luxe touch. Even the floor got a new look, with a dark, custom-blended stain and a protective polyurethane finish.

Honoring the home's past by mixing the old with the new, Rebecca observes *wabi-sabi*—an ancient Japanese design approach. Deco moldings—dings and all—were painted. The Persian rug in the kitchen came from Roger's grandfather. Guests sit around a midcentury modern teak table on 1920s mahogany cane chairs from the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco.

"Wabi-sabi is based on quiet beauty attained through time and experience," Rebecca says, alluding to a vintage mermaid can opener that inspired the peaceful palette of gray, green, and blue.

When the couple come home, whether from a day at the office or from a journey, they find refuge in their kitchen. "This is a relaxed, uncomplicated, and airy space that makes it a pleasure to cook," Rebecca says.

RESOURCES begin on page 142.

The blending of old and new is *wabi-sabi*, an ancient Japanese design approach that Rebecca embraces.

THIS PHOTO: A high-arc faucet and an undermount sink add an upscale look. **OPPOSITE:** Rather than placing cabinets all around the fridge, the homeowners opted for cabinets on one side and a portable wine rack on the other.



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ECLECTIC¹⁰¹ MIX IT UP FOR VISUAL VERVE

Here are the key ingredients to Rebecca Szeto's eclectic style.

Contrast. What works for a wedding works here: something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue (or whatever color you prefer).

Textures. They can be visual, like patterned wallpaper, or tactile, like salvaged wood countertops. Varying surface texture adds depth and visual interest.

Composition. Pulling together a look begins with arranging the big pieces—cabinetry, an island, and appliances. Then layer in the subtle elements, such as small appliances and other countertop objects. Both are integral parts of the overall environment.

Time. Be patient so you can find just the right decorations and other objects. The more time you spend looking, the more thoughtful and personal your items will be.

Style. Trends are impersonal and date your kitchen faster than you can say "stirrup pants." Figure out what you really like, and don't be scared to throw it into the mix. Fashion is fickle, but personal style endures.



FLOOR PLAN

1. GARDEN VIEW

The sink and adjacent prep area are positioned under the windows. "It's a simple pleasure to look out the window while washing dishes or chopping vegetables," Rebecca Szeto says.

2. EASY ACCESS

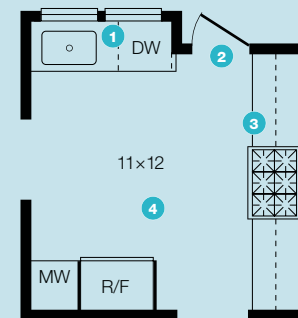
To maximize light while providing privacy, the door to the balcony has a custom ribbed-glass panel.

3. PREP AREA

A run of countertop on each side of the range provides prep and serving space.

4. WIDE OPEN

The kitchen is designed with an open area for guests to congregate. It's also a perfect place for a focal-point antique rug.



BUDGET

APPLIANCES	COST
Dishwasher	1,100
Range	3,200
Refrigerator	2,000
Ventilation hood	760
PLUMBING	
Faucet	350
Sink	400
SURFACES	
Backsplash, wallpaper, tempered glass	750
Countertop	3,800
MISCELLANEOUS	
Custom door	900
Floor refinishing	250
Light fixtures	1,000

TOTAL \$14,510

FAST FINISH

With smart planning and a great contractor, you can have a new kitchen in a month.

PHOTOGRAPHER PAUL DYER

Removing part of a wall between rooms made way for a peninsula. To-the-ceiling cabinets maximize storage. Frosted glass in upper cabinets shows only the silhouettes of dishes.

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REAL-LIFE Kitchens & Baths 7

Resume of Gayle Schadendorf

ASSOCIATIONS AND EDUCATION

- **Allied Member**, American Society of Interior Designers
- **Certificate of Achievement in Interior Design**, June 2003
San Diego Mesa College, San Diego, California
- **Bachelor of Fine Arts**, May 1986
University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota

SOLE PROPRIETOR, By the Sea Design Group MAGAZINE DESIGN EXPERTISE, 1995 to present

Freelance Art Direction, Magazine Design, Photo Art Direction, Interior Prop Styling and Project Design

- Client:** Meredith Corporation, Des Moines, Iowa
- **Contributing Art Director/Graphic Designer** for over 70 *Better Homes and Gardens*® Special Interest Publications magazines and bookazines, specializing in interiors. Conceptualized and produced Dream Bedrooms bookazine, Bath Makeovers magazine and Real-Life Kitchens & Baths bookazine. Designed several issues of Decorating magazine, Beautiful Interiors magazine, Storage magazine, Elegant Homes bookazine, Country French bookazine and Cottage Style bookazine.
 - **Art Direction, Photo Styling and/or Project Design** for over 40 *Better Homes and Gardens*® Special Interest Publications photo shoots, specializing in interiors, project design and creative tabletop.

INTERIOR DESIGN EXPERIENCE, June 2004 to present

- ***Better Homes and Gardens*® Special Interest Publications 100 Decorating Ideas Under \$100, Summer 2010.**
Transformed cottage dining room and kitchen using a citrus theme. Designed 17 project ideas, produced all projects, prop styled and art directed photo shoot.
- **A Designer's Influence, Peni Wilson, IIDA, CID.**
Freelanced from May 2004 to August 2005, work included; furniture/accessory shopping and installation of 4 luxury apartment models, color boards, perspective renderings, graphic design for client identity and promotional folder.
- **KZ Design Group, Kathleen Zbacnik, ASID, IIDA, CID.**
Freelanced from August 2003 to May 2004, work included; creating 5 large color boards, photo styling for ASID Kitchen Tour and several pencil perspective renderings.
- ***Better Homes and Gardens*® HGTV Before and After Decorating Book 2003.** Transformed living room using a storage theme and bedroom using a ribbon theme. Created color palettes, designed projects, produced all projects, prop styled and art directed photo shoot.

AWARDS AND VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

- **Deborah L. Thomas Memorial Award for Outstanding Student Leader:** Received scholarship to attend the 2004 ASID National Convention in Savannah, Georgia.
- **ASID President.** San Diego Mesa College Student Chapter of ASID 2003-2004.
- **ASID Newsletter Chair.** San Diego Mesa College Student Chapter of ASID 2002-2003.
- **ASID Newsletter of the Year Award.** San Diego Mesa College Student Chapter of ASID newsletter, Focal Point, was chosen by ASID National as the 2002-2003 Newsletter of the Year.
- **2003 Interior Design Exhibit, San Diego Mesa College.**
1st Place: INTE 115 Lighting & Color custom fixture.
1st Place: INTE 105 Residential Design space plan and model.
3rd Place: INTE 130 Merchandising commercial and residential space plan, elevations and material specifications.

ART DIRECTOR

Better Homes and Gardens® Craftways
April 1993 to November 1995

Meredith Corporation, Des Moines, Iowa

- **Supervise photographic and design conceptualization** for all interior and craft magazines and books produced by *Better Homes and Gardens*® Craftways.
- **Other related responsibilities included;** maintaining all Art department budgets and schedules, managed all separation, production and printing for all *Better Homes and Gardens*® Craftways publications. Managed Art Department personnel to ensure and maintain visual quality standards.

POSITIONS WITH MEREDITH CORPORATION

Better Homes and Gardens® Special Interest Publications
Meredith Corporation, Des Moines, Iowa

Associate Art Director, January 1991 to April 1993

Assistant Art Director, April 1990 to January 1991

Senior Graphic Designer, May 1989 to April 1990

Graphic Designer, September 1986 to May 1989

Graphic Design Internship, May 1985 to August 1985

SKILLS

- Highly organized, extremely motivated and very creative. Strong interpersonal communication skills.
- Trained and working knowledge of Macintosh electronic desktop publishing software including: Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Microsoft Word.