

Country Home

JUNE 2005

RELAX IN STYLE



THE NEST

Makeover of the month. Romancing the porch for summer.

THE PROBLEM

The humdrum front porch needed a kick to create a user-friendly environment.

THE SOLUTION

Our Emergency Makeover Team™ swept the porch clean of “regulation” porch furniture and dreamed up a soft, romantic style to complement the rest of the home. To enclose and soften the long, narrow space, the EMT draped sheer curtain panels around the porch perimeter. Then, they painted the floor vivid blue to anchor the scheme.

WHAT'S NEW

For seating, shapely painted metal chairs—decked in flirty cushions and pillows—were grouped with a banquette bench and a storage trunk fitted with casters. (Fabrics were treated for outdoor use, and mildew-resistant cushions were used.) To add drama and vintage charm, a chandelier-turned-candelabra was accented with clear prism drops.

FOR BUYING INFORMATION, TURN TO THE SOURCE BEGINNING ON PAGE 128.

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SHOPPING FOR SOFT STYLE

Designer Carrie Raphael shopped flea markets, discount centers, and Web sites to facelift this porch. Use these sources to create the romantic style.

FABRICS Visit www.houseinc.com to find Carrie's mix of soft floral fabrics.

SHEERS Carrie found the sheer curtain panels for just \$5 apiece at IKEA. Go to www.ikea.com.

PAINT Shop Benjamin Moore & Co., www.benjaminmoore.com, to find durable, colorful porch paint.

FURNITURE Carrie found furnishings at a flea market, then updated them with paint and fabric. Search yard sales, flea markets, and antiques shops to find similar pieces.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY HELEN NORMAN
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