

Better Homes and Gardens.

Trade Secrets

*Insider Advice
on Creating
Your Own
Personal Style*



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Decorating

to show personal style with your own taste rather than the latest fad. But how do you display your vision?

Take a tip or several tips from our experts featured in our book design, which is a collection of ideas from beautiful interiors, with the result, we think, will give you ideas about how to display your own style and setting. Through professional and advice to you about about your own style, you'll see how to do it.

Although these professional advice, it's in these years that their design ideas. This book when you look at them you'll see just what it is.

• See how a few days in these years of little more of your own style for
• Pick up before you can see the design. Can
• How to get the best of your own style.

Cecilia Raphael



Raphael Design
New Britain, Missouri

the fashionable farmhouse

Below: Cecilia Raphael's elegant style is a mix of classic and modern. She uses a mix of styles to create a look that is both timeless and contemporary. Her design is a mix of classic and modern. She uses a mix of styles to create a look that is both timeless and contemporary.

Opposite: Cecilia Raphael's elegant style is a mix of classic and modern. She uses a mix of styles to create a look that is both timeless and contemporary. Her design is a mix of classic and modern. She uses a mix of styles to create a look that is both timeless and contemporary.



Decorate's

is about personal style in your own home rather than the latest fashion. But how do you develop your vision?

Take a trip—of several components featured in our latest design, when re-creating home decor beautiful interiors, all the way, or work with professional designers to create a look you think about your own with care about the design.

Although these products seem, it's in their own right. This book takes you inside the minds of the designers who create the look you see.

- See how a few large pieces can make a room feel like a room.
- Pick up fabric ideas for your design.
- Discover how to use color in a room.



Even her favorite blue pillow was over a winter. She knew it would make the perfect pillow, soft and cozy, when she bought it. It's not surprising that she never wore the pattern, but loved the pillow she made from the fabric.

Carris describes design choices in future terms, comparing her approach to like dress forms and a favorite chair slipcover in a 1950s woman's skirt. She uses chairs like one of a kind dressmaker's creations, dressing them to call attention to a deeply baggy or a well-tailored look. That's why you'll find baby box plans on the bottom of two slipcovers and several boxes on the back of another.

Vintage fabrics play a big part in how she dresses up her furniture frames. The vintage fabrics are placed to make it easy to see the fabric when you walk in the room," Carris says.

If the fabric is fragile, she'll use it on the back of a slipcover where it receives the least amount of wear. Stronger fabrics add details to slipcovers, she designs them with much to put too many details on one slipcover, some of them of her Carris says. It's the same philosophy she uses throughout whether it's in carefully arranging a collection or a color-organizing furniture in a room.



Left: Carris and her husband, Charlie, removed a wall between the kitchen and dining area to create one big family space. Shaded furniture and plants, simple Roman shades, and storage bins give her the Summerhouse look she loves best.

Below: An updated kitchen with natural materials works perfectly for Carris. "I like having things around me that I can pull out," she says. "The wood finishes were built to last with the weathering. White painted top jutting."



Decorating

...then personal style in your own vision rather than the latest fashion. But how do you develop your vision?

Take a trip—on several occasions—to an antique store or a flea market. Browse through the aisles, and you'll find beautiful treasures, well beyond the usual, so-called "junk" items. You'll see things you've never seen before, and you'll be inspired. Think about the things you like and what you want to do with them. You'll find ideas for things you've never thought of. Although these projects are fun, it's also important to think about the things you want to do with your home.

- You have a lot of things that you don't use.
- You have a lot of things that you don't use.
- You have a lot of things that you don't use.
- You have a lot of things that you don't use.

pink and open walls, chandeliers, and distressed chairs might look overly soft and purely romantic in Carrie Taylor's Maryland home. But a closer look reveals a decorating style that's meant to work as hard as look as beautiful in the Victorian farmhouse she calls home. The young interior designer says style and utility can form a perfectly delightful design marriage.

"I never had the need to hide a room's purpose," Carrie says. "I love open shelves in kitchens and books. I find beauty in piles of single white washcloths and stacks of dishes neatly piled high." This midcentury beauty she draws up in slipcovers that hide less than the work when too many washcloths have a less-than-fresh look. In the kitchen and entry, she painted her floors to a soft shade with pattern that hides the tracks of daily life.

Carrie creates many design allusions, and never that Swedish artist Carl Larsson, who had double doors in the entry. She

discovered his paintings of home life when she was 16, and hours poring over the watercolors of his family doing laundry ready for lunch, or just becoming a dress. Some of these paintings are now in the finished rooms. (See some of these paintings at Larsson website: www.clg.se.)

"They lived their home and took great care in providing their space," says Carrie. The Scandinavian design aesthetic opens interiors filled with light and colorful rooms that the family stayed with her.

Now she pairs the simple beauty of Scandinavian with her own love of fashion. Carrie admits that when she's looking at fashion magazines, she's imagining how a detail from a dress of buttons, a pleat, or a bow—can be used on a slipcover.

"I love clothing," Carrie says. "I like the details you find in dresses, and I like to use those details to pillow and slipcover."

Right: Carrie and her son sit on the floor in the living room. The chandelier, used in the living room, is a mix of styles. Carrie says she has a lot of things that she doesn't use. She has a lot of things that she doesn't use. She has a lot of things that she doesn't use.





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is about personal style & your own vision rather than the latest fashions. But to develop your vision? Take a tip—or several—inspiration featured in our books design, who considering home decor beautiful interiors, tell it to you, or work with the creative ideas in creating look and feeling. The professionals and ideas you think about you or with some ideas for them. Although these people others, it's in their own their creative design work. This book takes you into their world you know you can. • See how a few large ideas lots of little ones of space and money. • Pick up before you ever see a designer. • How bright is her wonderful life?

Diagona Enrie's room is all about color! The yellow and pink of the dolls she likes, then Carrie painted the room to match. A Victorian dresser and bed look fresh with a new coat of paint. Opposite, shelves and baskets make use of the space. Girls will appreciate the pink and white with contrasting flowers. An old table cut down to just height, provides a perfect base for Emma's dollhouse.

Decor

in their personal
your own vision
the best before
during your visit.

Take a tip—only
negotiate the
and broader thing
considering how
beneficial service
visit, or work to
create terms in
books and terms
professionals and
you think about
with new ideas?

Although their
return, it's in the
also discuss the
This book takes
where you visit.

- See how a 50
dollar sale of
all space and
- Pick up 50
secret tips
- How to get
inspiration

PROP CLOSET

IDEAS THAT DEFINE YOUR STYLE



► **BUTTONS AND BOWS.** Come out a
design a bedroom without adding too
expensive decorative items. But what she
does is a chair it's a reflection of its style. A
chair with soft curves might be mixed to
look and softer with a simple chair could
be framed with a long and a few girls.

► **MIRRORED.** There is great in reflecting
light. "I like all white and large rooms," Carrie
says. She uses them as being nice light too
see more and to create open spaces.

► **REPLICATION OF HANDMADE PIECES.**
and use custom or custom when it do for Carrie,
she likes to combine their pieces. A row
of four baskets sit on a bench in her living
room. In Christmas they hold small evergreen
trees. "I love the same thing used over and
over again," she says. "Things placed in a

and are clean, simple, and unobtrusive."
for a dinner party she puts flowers in like
containers that stretch the length of the
candle table.

► **CHANDELIERS.** Don't reject a
chandelier only just the living room table.
Carrie likes to hang pretty chandeliers in
bathrooms, bedrooms, and even the
kitchen. "My kitchen isn't fancy, but it's fun
to have a chandelier there," she says. She
uses candle chandeliers, especially in
areas to cast a warm glow in her living
room and library.

► **HIGH-STEELING.** Carrie says someone
thought her house, but keeps most of
her collection on shelves in the kitchen. She
uses the old pieces for their bright white
color and simple shapes. She buys second-

pieces because they give her a big look in
very little money.

► **PILLOWS.** She places a large patterned
chair or a row of pillows on a chair. She
kiss on the front, pillows are also great for
throwing on the floor for TV viewing.

► **PILES OF BLANKETS.** A pile of
blankets that match the room makes a
family spot so they can be pulled out when
the temperature drops. "It's Carrie's favorite
use of style and usefulness.

► **BREKETS.** She uses them throughout
house to keep clutter under control. They
are a way of organizing something without
putting it in a file cabinet, or box. "I use
They're handy too for teaching children
pick up after they finish playing.



BUSINESS BASICS

Carrie Rayhead
started designing interiors when she was just 8 years
old. Of course the houses were dilapidated and made
from cardboard. But they were temporarily detailed
down to the window treatments.

Now she works with clients to create interiors and
accessories that reflect the style she has in her own
home. Most of her clients have young families and
want casual but pretty homes. "I take a practical
approach, I try to understand how they're going to
live in their house," she says. That means using
white slipcovers for families with children because
the covers easily can be bleached.

Carrie also makes a line of fabric shopping bags
that combine new and vintage fabrics.

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