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JANUARY 2012  
ATLANTAHOMESMAG.COM

\$4.95 US









*EVEN IN HIGH-TRAFFIC AREAS, MORRIS DIDN'T SKIMP ON HIGH STYLE. HERE, THE DESIGNER'S FUSS-FREE STYLE YIELDS AN INVITING HOME THAT REFLECTS THE FAMILY WHO LIVES THERE.*





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# Traditional Twist

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**INTERIOR DESIGNER AMY MORRIS SEAMLESSLY MIXES CLASSIC AND MODERN IN A VININGS HOUSE WHERE STYLE AND RELAXATION PREVAIL FOR A BUSY FAMILY OF FOUR**

Blue gray walls in the dining room provide a sophisticated backdrop to a French linen painted screen from B.D. Jeffries and a glittering chandelier by Niermann Weeks, available through Grizzel & Mann.











A palette of neutrals unifies the eclectic living room that is punctuated by green accent pillows, white column lamps and a graphic rug from Mbatarr, Ltd. The cocktail table is from Parc Monceau, *opposite* Classic and cool converge in the entry hall with herringbone brick flooring, a painted Louis XVI console and a brightly colored settee.



**F**OR DESIGNER AMY MORRIS, interiors projects begin with inspiration from the homeowner. "I design for the client," says Morris of her approach. "I edit everything they like and incorporate the things they want." When she met homeowners Polly and Keith White and their teenage son and daughter, the family had two requests for outfitting the house for their busy lifestyle: make it comfortable and conducive to entertaining.

"We have an open house policy," says Polly of their house situated near the Chattahoochee River and within walking distance of the local high school. The White's house is a revolving door for their children's friends and families from the school. Morris responded by striking the perfect balance between sophisticated and relaxed, making the house formal enough for dinner parties, but casual enough for movie nights.

Known for harmonizing classic and contemporary interiors with a twist, Morris set the tone for this home in the entry hall, where fresh pops of blue and green mix with herringbone-patterned brick underfoot. "It's casual elegance," she says. "This space is an introduction to the color you see throughout the house."

"The living room has a formal feeling to it, but it's young and updated," says Morris of the room that's refined without coming off as too precious, thanks to





Framed antique maps of Paris create a focal point in the inviting family room, blanketed in soft neutrals and pops of celadon through lamps from Parc Monceau, *opposite*. Ceiling beams and walls of windows provide plenty of eye candy in the kitchen; Morris simply added small touches such as the watercolor egg prints from Alnsworth-Noah & Associates and a rugged torch-style chandelier to freshen the space.

a playful, graphic floral rug, colorful throw pillows, and a pair of casual benches. Meanwhile, the dining room exudes Southern charm, from the homeowner's heirloom table and chairs to an antiques-topped sideboard. Morris counterbalanced these traditional touches with a soft blue gray on the walls and a chinoiserie-style screen for artful impact.

A more pared-down approach prevails in the family room, which connects to the light-filled kitchen. Here, Morris has capitalized on the need for comfort and low-key elegance in the family's favorite room. "We'll always end up here watching television," says Polly. In keeping with the home's traditional style, Morris updated the room with celadon lamps, chevron-print throw pillows, and warm, sepia-toned prints and photographs.

Upstairs, the craft room provided another opportunity for Morris

to play with color. The room, which doubles as Polly's workshop for photography cataloguing and a homework station for her son and friends, is painted black to complement the window treatments. "Against the black, the fabric feels more graphic," says Morris.

In the basement, another high-traffic space, the designer didn't skimp on high style. The media room's laidback vibe, created by warm tones, cozy sectionals, and an oversize coffee table perfect for perching your feet, makes it a cozy movie room for family night. One of the designer's favorite style secrets involves using outdoor fabric in busy rooms, like this one. "I typically use a polyester, which looks like natural velvet," she says. It looks great and no one knows."

Morris's design philosophy and fuss-free style yielded a beautiful, inviting house that not only reflects the family who lives there, but also transforms this house into a home. **SEE RESOURCES, BACK OF BOOK.**













*THE FAMILY HAD TWO REQUESTS FOR  
OUTFITTING THE HOUSE FOR THEIR BUSY  
LIFESTYLE: MAKE IT COMFORTABLE AND  
CONDUCTIVE TO ENTERTAINING.*

A bonus room designed with a contemporary vibe offers extra space for a slumber party or relaxing with friends. *opposite* In the girl's room, fun wall art adds the perfect amount of playfulness.



"The scale of the room is quite large, so I brought in bigger pieces of furniture," says Morris of the impressive chandelier in the master bedroom, which features serene Swedish blue and gray-white tones. The 19th-century Gustavian settee is from A. Tyner Antiques. The rug is from Moattar, Ltd. opposite Calacatta marble heightens the luxury in the master bedroom, while cotton window treatments with trim and Scala-mandre velvet fabric on an antique chair add an up-to-date energy.







above Schumacher linen window treatments soften the homeowner's craft room and homework headquarters, where a Bradley Hughes work table provides ample space under a modern, hand-hammered drum shade. right In the media room, charcoal velvet sectionals and upholstered khaki wool chairs from Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams offer comfy seating; the metal and wood coffee table is from Bungalow Classic. opposite, clockwise from top The basement bar, outfitted with a Paris flea market table, a large copper tub light fixture from South of Market, and a refrigerator concealed by built-in cabinets, boasts ample casual entertaining space. One of the home's powder rooms features a pair of arched iron windowpane mirrors placed together to look like one; the vanity is topped with linden green limestone. In the back entry hall, Morris brings the outdoors inside with brick flooring, botanical prints, iron lanterns from South of Market, and a pair of weathered Catalan chests leading out to the pool.

