



# A Beautiful Blend

When this homeowner and interior designer set her sights on a historic cottage, she found ways to blend her heirlooms and vintage treasures in a way that felt fresh and authentic to the space.

From the moment you enter this charming abode in Atlanta, Georgia, the light-filled rooms exude a chic contemporary vibe. But upon closer inspection, it's the rich layers of storied pieces that make this home a timeless classic. It's here that homeowner and interior designer Whitney Durham expertly blends a mix of traditional and vintage elements set against a well-balanced canvas of calming neutrals and rich jewel

tones. "I love to mix in vintage and one-of-a-kind finds in every room I design," she says.

Whitney thoughtfully gave each room inside her 1930s stone-front cottage a refresh while preserving their individual charms, original to the home. A striking glass-pane door drenched in peacock blue offers a friendly "welcome home" as well as a glimpse into the cheerful color scheme seen throughout the home.





In the living room, Whitney paired a mix of old and new finds for a space that feels fun and fresh. A set of custom blue velvet sofas and swivel club chairs from the Ellenburg Chair Company blend seamlessly with a zebra hide rug and Lucite garden stool that were vintage finds from local shops.



In the kitchen, Whitney's mission was to visually brighten the space. Painting all the original dark wooden cabinets with Benjamin Moore's "White Dove" instantly gave the kitchen a more open, airy feel. She continued the refresh by swapping the room's dark green ceramic backsplash with white high-gloss brick pavers. The kitchen island was topped with a fresh slab of quartz, and Whitney incorporated a hint of age to the newly finished space with vintage Lucite barstools. "I found these on Craigslist for a steal," she says. Whitney recovered the seats with a faux leather by Schumacher, so "a simple wipe-down makes them easy to maintain—even with children," she shares.

For the breakfast nook, Whitney painted the charming built-in with the same white paint, swapped

The antique wooden ice chest topped with gray marble was passed down from Whitney's great-grandmother. OPPOSITE: Above the banquette, Whitney designed a large, sophisticated roman shade with cornice board to match the scale of the long rectangular kitchen.





out the old banquette seat cushions, and added fun new throw pillows.

The Durhams decided to enclose their screened porch to allow for an additional family room to use on a regular basis. “The screened porch was nice to have—when the weather was perfect,” Whitney says. “If you live in the South, you can understand that we didn’t use our screened porch enough to justify leaving it as such.”

To complete the enclosure, they added custom windows, eliminated two screened doors, added casement windows on the corners of the room, raised the floors to be level with the kitchen and living room floors, and matched the hardwood to the existing hardwoods throughout the home.

While the sunroom is technically new to the home, Whitney was sure to add vintage elements to give it a touch of storied charm. She used cheerful fabrics, whimsical accents, unexpected

Whitney painted the window trim and the French doors in Benjamin Moore’s high-gloss “Blue Dan” to match the bookshelves and trim painted in the same blue in the adjacent living room. The rug is not only visually appealing but practical, she says, noting that it hides dirt and is perfect for a high-traffic area.



pops of color, and timeless materials to complete the room. The acrylic coffee table is one of her favorite elements in the space. “I love to use something acrylic in every room because they are not visually heavy but still allow for functionality and, in this case, provide a spot to showcase some of my personal favorite art and home décor coffee-table books—along with a few unique accessories,” Whitney says.

Throughout the home, the Durhams opted for pretty yet practical design ideas. For example, in the sunroom, they are able to easily conceal their TV as Whitney created a special inset into one wall that allows them to “hide it when we want to and pull it out when we want to watch it.” Another thoughtful addition in the sunroom



Since the young family didn't have much use for their formal dining room, Whitney converted the space into a sitting room they use for family game nights with their two children, Benson and Graham.



The lamps and bed in Whitney's master bedroom are antiques. Schumacher pillows and monogrammed velvet turquoise Euro pillows personalize the space and add a traditional yet feminine touch to the bed. BELOW: The children's headboards are custom-made in an ikat Whitney found at Forsyth Fabrics. "I loved the fun colors and playful pattern," she says. "It looked like a fresh fabric for their room now and equally a great print to grow into as they age." OPPOSITE: The sofa at the foot of the bed is a vintage piece from Whitney's godmother's parents' home in historic Marietta, Georgia. "I kept the original cream velvet (for now) because it works beautifully in the space and feels authentic," she says.



came via lighting. She opted for three Circa Classic swing-arm lights on the interior "columns" to give additional light without using floor or side table space.

It's evident that this stylish young family lives in every room in their house. From the foyer to their private retreats, Whitney has created a space that layers stylish glam and modern amenities while giving nods to the past through vintage and storied heirloom pieces.

To her own clients, she states, "Your home should be a place of warmth and comfort, surrounded by the things you love. It should reflect the personalities of those who live within its walls and make you happy when you walk through your front door." And from the looks of her home's cheerful color palette, custom artwork, and vintage collections, it's a mantra she's clearly achieved in her Atlanta cottage. ♡

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