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Modern Comfort

IN ALABAMA'S CAPITAL CITY, CLASSIC DÉCOR FINDS A FRESH COMPLEXION WITH COLORFUL ACCENTS, CUSTOM FURNITURE, AND BRIGHT TEXTILES.



"The dining room is where 'family' really happens," designer Cindy Bargainier says of this treasured space. She worked with homeowners Aaron and Jennifer Millage to create an elegant-yet-functional room. A rustic farm table anchored the design, while stately chairs preserved a more formal tone. Artist Marilyn Heard painted the walls in a muted forest motif, creating a classic landscape scene just lighthearted enough for the Millage children to imagine woodland animals playing behind the two-dimensional trees.



One room easily flows into the next in this ramblar. To unify the décor, Aaron and Jennifer maintained the same warm neutral tones on the walls and moldings throughout the home, while splashes of color in the furniture added fresh points of interest. Cindy recalls the first addition: a custom wingback chair from her furniture line. Appropriately named the Jennifer, its bold hue made a lively addition to the family den. The design served as a model for the custom settees incorporated into the adjoining parlor. In the dining room, floor-length slipcovers in Cindy's Palette Knife fabric featured the complementary blues and pinks used as accents throughout the home.



A WELL-APPOINTED
PARLOR SETS A
CLASSIC TONE IN
THE DÉCOR OF A
HOME, CREATING
A SPECIAL HAVEN
FOR ENTERTAINING
FRIENDS OR QUIETLY
RELAXING.

Cindy fashioned a distinct, adults-only space in the front parlor. "Jennifer wanted a place with a lot of style where the adults could sit quietly with a cool drink and watch the kids playing," the designer explains. Twin settees flank the picture window, providing easy views of the backyard and pool area. Their modern lines strike a dignified note that continues with the armchairs, while a cowhide rug offers a subtly earthy accent.



For the bedroom, Cindy envisioned an upscale getaway for the busy mom and dad. "We took a room that had been an afterthought and made it into a space with the feel of a luxurious retreat," she says. With an iron canopy bed designed to the room's dimensions, a French armoire, and elegant chandelier, the couple acquired a private space that feels worlds apart from the ongoing demands of daily life.



