

SPRING COLOR ISSUE

# House Beautiful

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# 161

DAZZLING  
COLOR  
IDEAS



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The energetic colors of this living room in Charleston set the tone for the whole house. Walls are painted Persian Pink by Porter. A Crate and Barrel sofa with a custom linen slipcover is paired with a vintage chair in yellow silk. Stool fabric is Herbert's Carnation Weave, David Hicks by Ashley Hicks for Lee Jofa.



color is *fun*



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**FRANCES SCHULTZ:** I know this is your mother's house, but it sure isn't your mother's house, if you know what I mean.

**ANGIE HRANOWSKY:** I know. People have said to me, 'Man, your mom's pretty cool.' But when she moved from Louisville to Charleston, she decided she was ready for a change.

**What sort of change?**

She wanted the house to be feminine but not frilly, serious and at the same time comfortable, warm and colorful—and most of all, a house where you could nest.

**It would be hard to stay in a bad mood in a house with all these happy colors.**

Yeah, it's pretty uplifting. You walk in the door and you feel good. I think it's the mix. The combinations of colors and furniture and knowing you have something unique. I love color, and I love things that not everybody has—vintage pieces, furniture that you can't just buy everywhere. I love modern, but my mom isn't quite as modern as I am. That's what was fun about doing her house. We really got to mix a lot of things.

**I wonder why so many people are afraid of color.**

I think because they feel they aren't good at it. They don't know where to begin.

**Did you have to overcome your own fear of it?**

No, I've never been afraid of it. I've never been one of those beige people. Don't get me wrong, I love white, but I love it for the contrast. I see an all-white room and I think oh, man, that's great, but if you'd throw some fuchsia pillows on that sofa...

**How did you begin scheming the color in this house?**

Everything sort of started from the living room. My mother had this beautiful Oriental she'd brought with her. It has reds and celadons and sort of buttery colors, but I was looking at it one day and I saw this lilac color—just a hint of it—in the pattern and I thought, oh my gosh, that color's fantastic. So I immediately went out and picked eight or nine different shades of that color and put them all up on the wall. The winner was Persian Pink, by Porter Paints. And everything just sort of fell together after that. I then started pulling swatches of colors from a painting I had given my mother for her birthday—fuchsias, raspberries, and oranges that I mixed with golden yellows, because I was using a lot of brass accents in the room.

**And from there?**

I continued the sort of lilac-lavender in the hallway off the living room. You don't really see that color on the wall very often. I called every showroom and asked for every single wallpaper in lilac and lavender and found this one by Osborne & Little with a sort of light silver metallic flower. It transitions beautifully with the rest of the house. The hallway has that modern yet feminine quality you see in other parts of the house.

**The dining room has a very different feel.**

It's modern with a bit of an ethnic mood. I wanted an almost sultry feeling, a room where people would want to linger and talk for hours after dinner is over. I found the chairs first and used this wonderfully rich David Hicks fabric. I pulled the plum color from the fabric and used it on the walls and chose the white dining table and vintage chandelier for contrast. The batik tapestry really sets the mood and plays beautifully off the rich, dark walls. And the hardware on the Paul Frankl buffet, which has incredible lines, is like jewelry.

**Now for the showstopper. That blue chandelier!**

Isn't it great? I found it on a Web site called greatchandeliers.com, where you can get these elaborate chandeliers and they come in a million parts and you have to put them together yourself. I've been wanting to do this forever—I got car paint and I painted it.

**You're kidding. How on earth...**

I hung it in my mom's attic and spray-painted it. It wasn't the easiest thing to do, because it's hard to get anything to stick to glass. The priming part of it was a little bit tricky, but it ended up looking fabulous.

PRODUCED BY DORÉTTA SPERDUTO



The wall in the dining room is painted in Jack Horner's Plum by Pratt & Lambert. The Cardinal dining table is from GDC Home in Charleston. Vintage chairs are covered in a David Hicks fabric, La Fiorentina by Groundworks for Lee Jofa.

OPPOSITE: In the hallway, Osborne & Little's Maliko wallpaper from the Sakura collection is an ideal backdrop for a 1960s chest, a '50s lamp and Jonathan Adler ceramics.

"I wanted my mother's bedroom to be a room that a woman could really appreciate and feel precious in. The chandelier is glass and I painted it with blue car paint. I love the way it just drips over the room—talk about a statement. The room sparkles, and I know she feels absolutely great in it."





**THIS PAGE:** In the master bedroom, a 1940s oil found on eBay hangs above a vintage chest. **OPPOSITE:** A 19th-century French headboard is upholstered in DuraSuede in dusty rose. Bedspread and shams are Whirl in marble from Braemore. Pillows from ABC Carpet & Home; Dante lamp from GDC Home. Wall color is Benjamin Moore's White Chocolate. Blue chandelier is painted with BASF automotive paint.



find your colors...



In the bedroom, a pillow from ABC Carpet & Home lies on a bench covered in Regency velvet in sapphire from Robert Allen.





"The hint of lilac in my mother's Oushak rug inspired the wall color in the living room. Then I pulled fuchsia, raspberry, and orange accents from the painting on the mantel and mixed them with golden yellow. The colors absolutely sing in that room."



"I kept the bedroom mostly neutral, adding pops of color for a romantic, feminine quality. I love mixing reds and pinks with regal blues and turquoise; they have such a rich quality. Turquoise is my favorite color, by the way."

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