

ELLE DECOR

# THE HEIGHT of STYLE



INSPIRING IDEAS FROM THE WORLD'S CHICEST ROOMS

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## ANATOMY OF A ROOM

With its deep teal walls and ethnic textiles, the master bedroom in fashion editor Kim Hersov's London townhouse feels like an exotic and intensely private retreat. The atmosphere is both old-world and of the moment.

- **HIGH TOP** The custom-made four-poster bed has a canopy that reaches almost to the ceiling, an effect that both accentuates the height of the space and makes this sizable room feel cozier. The bed walks the line between traditional and modern: Its turned legs have classic details, but the canopy frame (and lack of side panels) feels contemporary. With its black lacquered finish, the four-poster has a clean, graphic style that grounds the room's colorful and multilayered decor.
- **WRITE STUFF** Instead of side tables, Hersov had the clever idea of flanking the bed with a pair of small vintage desks that came out of a Madrid jewelry store. They work beautifully as bedside tables, but with the addition of lamps and bamboo chairs (she discovered the latter at a Paris flea market) the desks also function as fully equipped writing desks.
- **SING THE BLUES** The walls are covered in a deep teal silk. The dark, enveloping wall color adds richness to the bedroom and a sense of mystery. Hersov deepened the effect by layering in a rug in the same tone, and by adding a range of patterned blue textiles, including the bed's striking paisley throw.
- **SCREEN STARS** Blue creates the drama in this master bedroom, but blue's complement—yellow, in the form of gold—helps warm up the moody space. Gold silk curtains hang from floor to ceiling and increase the bedroom's glamour quotient. Meanwhile, a dramatic pair of gold-and-black screens gleams in the corners behind the bed.



## WHAT THE PROS KNOW: BATHROOMS

### FULLY FURNISHED

Today's bathrooms are decorated with the same care and attention as any room in the house. Designers are incorporating music, furniture, and even refrigerators. If not for the bathtub and sink, Peter Mikic's master bath on page 118 might be mistaken for the salon: The room is furnished with a sofa, rug, antique portrait, and silk wall coverings.

### PERSONAL EXPRESSIONS

Bathrooms can feel special and personal. In her Moroccan home, below right, fashion designer Liza Bruce and her husband created a bathtub in the shape of an eight-pointed star. The room's mirrored wall treatment was based on Islamic design.

### GO WILD

Powder rooms are a great place to experiment with color and pattern. Try a dramatic wall covering like the classic red and zebra-patterned Scalamandré wallpaper that decorator Miles Redd used in a small bathroom, right.

### A LONG SOAK

A freestanding tub can add a sculptural element to a space. Perhaps that is why so many designers incorporate them not only into bathrooms but also into bedrooms.

### MAKE ROOM

Consider turning an unused bedroom into a spacious master bath, as fashion editor Kim Hershov did in her historic London townhouse, opposite.

### WARM METALS

Cool metals such as nickel and silver add a modern touch to a bath, while warmer finishes such as gold, bronze, and brass evoke old-world glamour. In Alice Childress and Christopher Daniel's SoHo loft on page 158, antique-style English fittings lend atmosphere to a room with a marble tub and a huge 18th-century painting.

**FACING PAGE:** Kim Hershov's master bath in London, designed by Hubert Zandberg, has a Bateau tub from the Water Monopoly.

**TOP:** Valerie Colas-Thibouville's powder room in Manhattan—designed by Miles Redd, Dick Bories, and James Shearron—is sheathed in Scalamandré's iconic zebra wallpaper; the sink is granite.

**RIGHT:** A mirrored wall treatment based on Islamic design in Liza Bruce and Nicholas Alvis Vega's home in Morocco.





**ABOVE:** Steven Johanknecht, a cofounder of the California design firm Commune, created a cozy master bedroom beneath the eaves of his 1928 Tudor-style cottage in Los Angeles. The room, which is furnished with books, textiles, and taxidermy he collects, contains a George Nelson bed and a vintage zebra wood credenza.

**RIGHT:** The family room of fashion editor Kim Hersov's London row house is filled with artwork and textiles and one-of-a-kind furnishings, such as a carved African chair, a custom-made ottoman studded with buttons from a vintage military coat, and a 1950s light fixture from Brazil. A painting by Shezad Dawood hangs above the fireplace.





**TOP:** The kitchen in Jean-Louis Deniot's Paris apartment has cabinetry in hammered silver made in Morocco. The countertops and floor utilize four types of marble. The brass-and-opaline light fixture is by Stilnovo.

**LEFT:** The master bath in Alice Childress and Christopher Daniels's Manhattan loft, decorated with the help of his sister Courtney Daniels, is furnished with an antique tub, a vintage Italian chandelier, and an 18th-century painting.

**FACING PAGE, TOP LEFT:** In Deniot's master bath, the cabinetry is painted to mimic the plaster-fluted walls. Felix Agostini sconces flank the custom-made medicine cabinet.

**FACING PAGE, TOP RIGHT:** Fashion editor Kim Hershov's London kitchen, which was designed by Hubert Zandberg, has a console and sconces made from metal bins. A light fixture from a French factory hangs above the stainless-steel island, and the barstools were found at a Paris flea market.

**FACING PAGE, BOTTOM LEFT:** The kitchen in the Robert Couturier-designed Manhattan duplex of celebrity hairstylist Frédéric Fekkai and his wife, Shirin von Wulffen, has a wall of custom-made Shaker-inspired cabinetry.

**FACING PAGE, BOTTOM RIGHT:** A rock 'n' roll spirit prevails in the exercise room of television star Sandra Lee's Westchester, New York, Colonial home. She furnished the space with shelving by California Closets and a portrait of Jim Morrison by Russell Young.

