

Before



After



All you need is love—and a bubble chair—for girly glamour. White leather poufs add practical seating, while the chinoiserie drapery inspires the color palette.

Girly Glam

An awkward space becomes the belle of the ball with luxurious fabrics and stylish accessories.

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CREATING THE PERFECT TWEEN HANGOUT for a decorator showcase home presented a design challenge. One girl's must-have was a hanging chair, while her sister longed for purple and turquoise—and it all needed to happen in two days. Even more, Morn hoped the small attic would blend just the right amounts of girly glamour with traditional style appropriate for an older home.

"She wanted a room that reflected the grandness of this Piedmont estate home but also was hip and playful for her daughters," designer Laura Martin Bovard, owner of Laura Martin Bovard Interiors, says about the homeowner of this San Francisco home.

Laura went above and beyond by mixing bold colors with neutrals, blending traditional with hip and adding modern accessories. She was able to transform the awkward space full of "crazy angles" and light-blocking shutters into a modern dream hangout infused with feminine fun.



Above: The Chesterfield sofa is a classic design dressed up in a fun crushed plum velvet.



Right: Odd angles, clutter and drab color made this attic an unwelcoming hangout.

How to Bring Your Vision to Life

Designer Laura Martin Bovard's tips for success that don't cost a dime.

- **Brainstorm:** Make a collage by gathering all your ideas into one place for an inspirational mood board. Anything can be an inspirational piece, from fabric to a magazine clipping to a memento. Laura once designed an entire room around a postcard.
- **Edit:** "Delete the things that are not following the thread of the theme," Laura says. Don't overuse too many bright colors and remember that layering is key—while too many tchotchkes are not. Try not to get sidetracked and keep your vision in mind.
- **Ask for help:** "Design is a synergistic process," Laura says. She suggests finding a friend to team up with. It's possible to get overwhelmed with all the choices, so a partner can help keep you accountable to your vision, she says.

"We unified the room and settled it down by installing carpet wall to wall. We painted the entire room the same color, then balanced the size of the room by having the same fabric on the windows at both ends," Laura says.

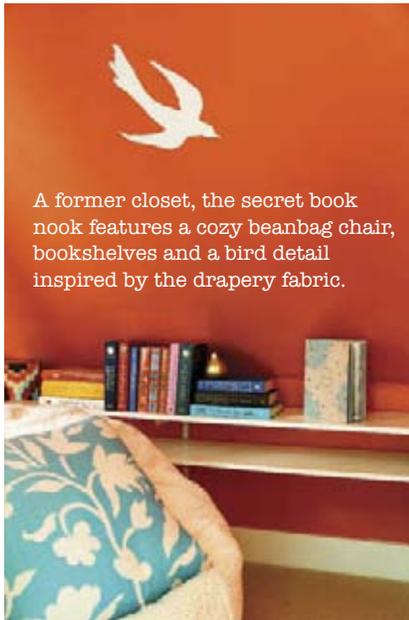
After the room was painted a restful blue, Laura added white glossy details inspired by the colorful chinoiserie drapery print. Then, she layered a furry rug over the neutral Berber carpet to define the main seating area. The Chesterfield sofa is upholstered in a not-so-traditional crushed velvet. A closet even became a secret book nook painted in the room's orange accent color, complete with a beanbag chair. And then there's the piece for "wow" factor: a hanging bubble chair. The birdcage-like chair brings joy to the homeowners and is a fun touch that everyone can appreciate.

The final result "was a cheerful, uplifting, fun, playful room that was full of candy, a bubble chair and a big flatscreen TV," Laura says. "I think everyone's inner child could say, 'I could spend the day with my girlfriends in this room and never want to leave!'"

Today it's a place where the girls watch movies, play with their Barbie dolls, read, or simply hang out with friends and make memories.

"Creating beauty and order in our homes makes us want to be at home so that we can connect more with each other," Laura adds.

See Shopping Guide, page 128.



A former closet, the secret book nook features a cozy beanbag chair, bookshelves and a bird detail inspired by the drapery fabric.

Designing for Tweens

How to create a room on a budget that's fun yet sophisticated for a maturing audience.

- Design up:** Designer Laura Martin Bovard likes to think a couple years ahead for the needs and tastes of tweens when designing a room. Try creating a room that's more sophisticated than your kids are at the moment so they can grow into the space. Consider how they'll feel in the room in a few years.
- Include the classics:** The white lacquer cabinet in this room could live anywhere in the house, and the neutral carpets will stand the test of time. Make sure big pieces and purchases are timeless.
- Where to use color:** Use favorite colors (which may change monthly for kids) for the accessories. Or, paint a color of choice on only one wall rather than the entire room—it's a lot easier to rotate the color of one accent wall.
- Accessorize with enthusiasm:** Accessorize with items you can easily change out as tastes evolve and seasons change, such as artwork, pillows and throws. A furry rug adds fun and is inexpensive. In this room, the designer even covered books with coordinating colored paper.



For more information on Laura Martin Bovard Interiors, visit lmbinteriors.com.



After

Before

Above: For the showcase tour, Laura added candy jars in coordinating colors, trimmed the lamps in satin ribbon and covered the coffee table books in coral and blue paper to fit the color palette.

"I could spend the day with my girlfriends in this room and **never want to leave!**"

