

Vintage

Beautiful

BLENDED BLISS
MIX OLD AND NEW FINDS
FOR UNIQUE CHIC

ETERNAL ELEGANCE

*Tour the Classic
Homes of Collectors
and Designers*

ANTIQUER'S PARADISE

*Inspiring Rooms with
Flea Market Treasures*

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A former actress uses her theatrical sensibility to style vivid spaces, created from lush layers of antiques.

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Cool tones and a neutral color palette in the home of two siblings sets the stage for warm and inviting antiques and collectibles.

Hodgepodge Havens

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In the home of this collector, antiques dealer and designer, a Victorian home's appreciation of both the old and the new merge for a cohesively distinct style.

82 THE REAL DEAL

Tour the 1878 home of cultural icon Betty Crocker, with some of its original and well-loved features still intact.

94 GEORGIA ON MY MIND

With a combination of creativity, mindfulness and curiosity, a Savannah couple turns a rundown space into an inspired abode.

PHOTO BY MARK LOPHAN





Pared-Down Pretty

A mix of high and low, vintage and new
creates curated rooms in a Maine farmhouse.

By KAREN WILHELMSEN
Photography by JEFF ROBERTS



Back to Barnyard Basics

From the deck, you can see the red barn, which hasn't received a renovation and was once populated by dairy cows. Because this versatile space has a roof, the homeowners can use it in the summer for gathering outdoors or for fall festivities. Maintaining the aged feel of the original farmhouse was important, and now both the main house and barn be nicely together.



Though she's from Miami, a place synonymous with vibrant colors and hot weather, interior designer Denise LaVey of Denise LaVey Interior Design is an expert at mixing neutrals for everlasting style that can easily adapt for the seasons. "Staying in a neutral color palette makes a space less trendy and more timeless," the Los Angeles resident says. "It's nice to add pops of color in your accessories and items that can be changed out depending on your mood and the season."

Keeping rustic fall textures and colors in mind when decorating this farmhouse, located on an old dairy farm in Kennebunk, Maine, a classic color scheme created a neutral canvas for displaying the clients' collection of vintage finds and artwork.



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but there's definitely a modern
twist on this farmhouse."*

Schoolhouse Rocks

The bricks in the living room come from an old schoolhouse, and give this Maine farmhouse a connection to the past. Juxtaposed by modern artwork and furnishings, this room, as with the rest of the house, contains a cohesive blend of old and new pieces. The end result is an eclectically unique home.

“Staying in a neutral color palette makes a space less trendy and more timeless.”

Old School

“The clients bought the home in 2013, and have so far renovated the farmhouse. But there’s a huge barn attached to it that hasn’t been renovated yet,” Denise says. The homeowners, who are brother and sister, spent a year and half renovating and furnishing the farmhouse alongside Denise.

To keep the newly renovated space feeling aged to maintain its original character, they used the fronts of reclaimed bricks from an old schoolhouse in the living room and great room to mimic the appearance of a full brick wall. Salvaged wood also made its way onto the wall panels in the dining room, kitchen, powder room and master bathroom—creating the best of both worlds: old and new.

“I think we brought the home back to life, but there’s definitely a modern twist on this farmhouse. We kept it a *farmhouse*, which was very important, but added all of the modern conveniences. It needed a lot of love,” Denise says.

Aged to Perfection

Before the renovations started, Denise and the homeowners went on regular buying trips to various antiques stores in Maine. Curating the furnishings piece by piece, Denise was able to study the home and better assess what the clients needed.

Warm Welcoming

At the entrance sits a painting from the 1700s in a gilded frame (which was from the homeowners’ personal collection), flanked by aged, mirrored sconces. From the driftwood and bronze bird statues to the textures on the sideboard’s distressed wood and starfishes, this vignette offers so much to admire.



Out of the Woods

"Each piece has its own story," Denise says. When decorating with vintage finds, it's all about using them to form your overall narrative. In this office, the chair was a steal from a thrift store in Portland, Maine. An African mask and wooden desk tie into the reclaimed wood on the walls—creating an overall monochromatic, textured effect.



Bespoken Beauty

During the renovations, getting rid of a chimneystack allowed the dining room/great room to extend and "really opened the space up," Denise says. The antique dining table has a zinc top for form and function. Finished off with a vibrant, weathered blue buffet and vintage mirror, the room has timeworn elegance.

In the dining room, for example, Denise found the table at an antiques store. She then topped it with zinc and surrounded it with Pottery Barn chairs for a look that's vintage yet modern. Overhead is a light fixture that was the genius upcycling idea of the homeowner, who created it by surrounding a raw crystal chandelier with an old commercial cage drum shade.

"There are things that we spent money on, and others that we saved money on," says Denise, who calls the farmhouse eclectic. "I think the vintage pieces give an age to the home."

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Artistic Touches

In the powder room, the aged white wood paneling complements the Venetian mirror from a local antiques store. The vanity is a piece from cabinetmaker Derek Preble, joined onto an old sink top. Picasso and Diego Rivera lithographs in black and white add unexpected elegance to the space.







Function Meets Flair

When the homeowners bought this property, the kitchen didn't have many cabinets with drawers—making it too impractical for their lifestyle. "It needed a lot of help," Denise says. Overhead, reclaimed beams match the distressed, salvaged wood on the island. The brick in the living room also shows up here for unity. A large bust and vintage pendant lights add old-fashioned touches to the farmhouse kitchen.



My Happy Place

Two separate sets of stairs lead to the second floor, which consists of three bedrooms and two bathrooms. "They don't have access in between since they were made for a brother and sister," Denise says. "She lives here full time, and when he visits, this is his safe place, his happy place." In this bedroom, colorful paintings of buoys and a dog enliven the space.

"It's nice to add pops of color in your accessories and items that can be changed out depending on your mood and the season."



Blended Bliss

Denise found the focal point of this bathroom, a round mirror from the '60s, in New York. "I like using textures, like in this bathroom," she says. "That's grasscloth wallpaper, which balances out the texture on the vanity." Hexagonal Carrara marble tiles on the floor and classic sconces bring more traditional elements to the space.



Rustic Retreat

In the master bathroom, an antique ladder holds spare towels. The vanity drawers have horn handles with nickel, made by Ochre. The antique urns on pedestals were from the clients' personal collection. Rustic yet refined, this relaxing space has plenty of natural light for an uplifting vibe.