



▲ GLOSSY CONTRASTS Stanley and Beth Hickman's vibrant living room is a study in contrast and imagination. An antique white lacquered piano rests on dark-stained hardwood floors. Glossy white woodwork edges deep eggplant walls. Shuttered windows allow slits of sunshine. Banquettes, covered in fanciful swirls of color, offer striking seating.

The room is both energetic and subdued — the perfect backdrop for an evening of intimate entertaining. The owners envisioned this room to be a dramatic showcase for Beth Hickman's artwork. Here, "White Roses" highlights a gallery wall. Design by David Lantz. Photo by Ira Montgomery.

◀ SLEEK INSPIRATION This master bedroom was designed for an owner who asked for an easy-on-the-eye color scheme to balance his multi-hued home. Although the scheme is indeed subtle, it doesn't lack drama. Soft lighting highlights the chocolate-brown fireplace wall and bookshelves. Hinson & Company patterned fabric on walls, bedspread and curtains sets an unobtrusive background. An eye-catching alder-wood bed from London-Marquis provides the room's focal point, and matching chairs and ottoman complete the group. The logs are hand-peeled and finished for an elegant, yet subtly sophisticated look. Design by Minton-Corley. Photo provided by Minton-Corley.

▶ IN HIGH STYLE A simple daybed takes on glamorous airs when draped with fabric. An old shower-curtain rod painted a glossy white could be used to improvise the canopy, or PVC tubing could achieve the same effect. ➔

