



**Karastan:** Do you have a specific way of approaching decorating in your home?

Andie MacDowell: It's more eclectic, I would say. My house has a very Gothic feel to it in the shape of the windows. But the basement's sort of Moroccan. Over my fireplace, I have an Indonesian piece that I found. I have old tiles that I found in Texas that I think are from the thirties. And I found these murals in Montana that were on the side of a train going to the first World's Fair.

K: Wow. Were you inspired by some of the movie sets you worked on?

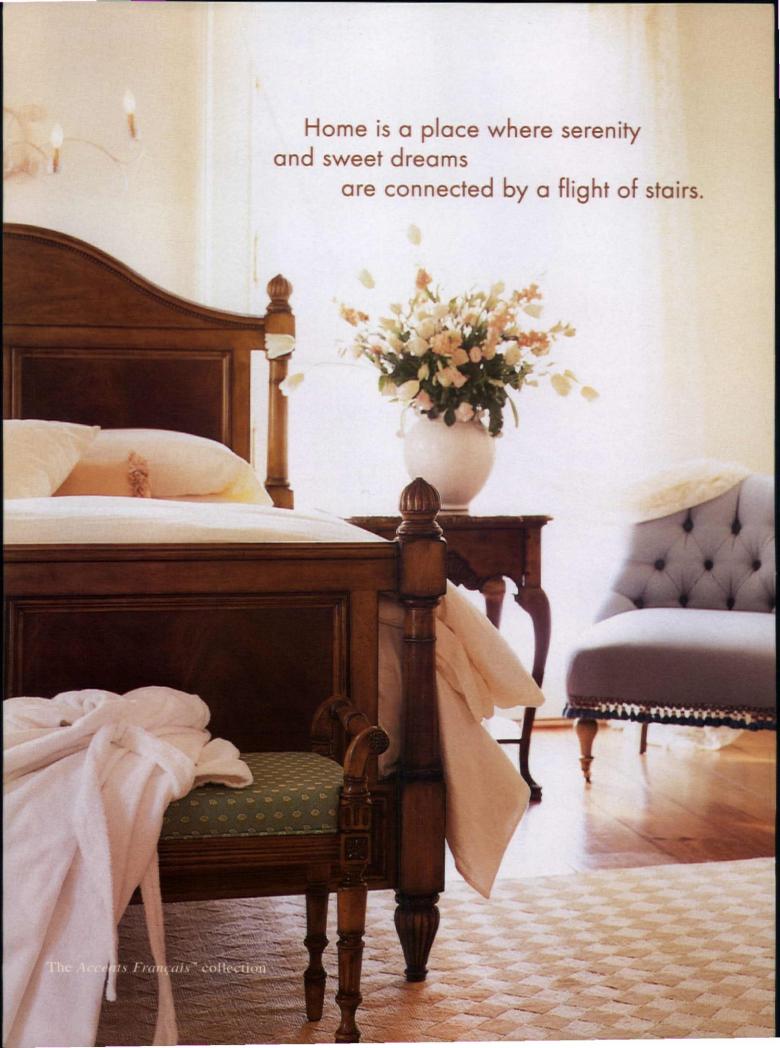
A: I'm sure being around creative people had an influence on me. Especially in color techniques that make a place look old when it's not really old. And in just being more creative. We took a table and divided it and used it in different spots of the house as a piece of the wall.

K: What is it that makes your home feel like a home?

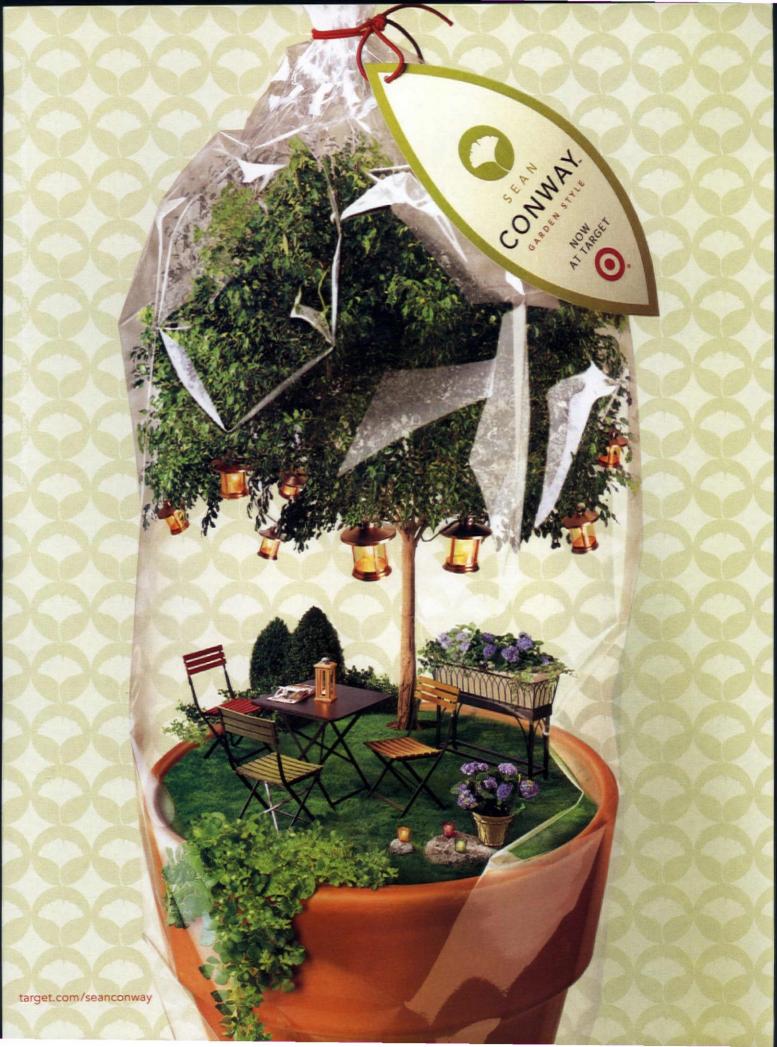
A: I just want my home to be warm and inviting. And functional.

Not like a "Look at me! This is my showcase house." I wanted it to be a "Come in. Sit down by the fire and let's have a cup of tea" kind of place.





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# A Clean Enough Kitchen

e have come to a nasty pass when we are afraid to wash dishes because the sink is a bacteria breeding ground. That sponge you thought was cleaning your dirty counters? You are swabbing them with a live germ culture.

We have become obsessed. I have visited grand homes and been greeted at the door by high-strung butlers in white coats, bearing surgical bootees to slip on over my street shoes, lest germs be brought in and deposited on sparkling floors. (I would like to be able to write "hospital-clean floors," but, alas, we now know too much about the real conditions of those so-called sterilized zones.) I listened, during lunch one day, to a friend who advised me to throw away my pillows every six months.

"You know how they start light and fluffy," she said, "and then they get wadded and feel sort of heavy?" I nodded in agreement. I had noticed that, generally, the older things got, the more weighty they seemed to be, but I thought that had more to do with the sogginess of tears, or the heaviness of memory. "All that weight is from dust mites. Bugs. Billions and billions of them. They come off your skin; they colonize in your pillows. They're invisible, they are so small. You can imagine how many there have to be to add so much weight. Generation after generation reproducing-and feeding, and defecating-in there."

I paid the check queasily and went home. Ignoring the loud protests of my children, who liked their old pillows and felt they had achieved the optimum condition for comfort, I

threw everything away, shuddering as I picked each pillow up by the corner and delicately placed it into a heavy black plastic bag, fearing that I would inadvertently release a few generations of mites into the air to start new colonies under my bed. I stopped at the stuffed animals, though I don't know why I should have - out of sentiment, I surround my children with adorable, bacteria-laden things. The pillows made me think about vacuuming, and that, in turn, made me think about what gets blown out the back of the vacuum cleaner, and that, in turn, made me wonder why we bother at all. But I did not despair, as

I could see, suddenly, a new reason to get out of bed in the morning-as fast as possible. Better yet not to even get into bed.

I went to that temple of fine living, Gracious Home, to see what they had to say about keeping things clean. A lot. Remember Mr. Clean, Parsons' Ammonia, and Spic and Span? Those were the days. Simple, and filthy. These days the cleaning aisle is burgeoning with nuclear-powered products with names like Kaboom, that promise to make a killing ground of your tub and shower. Cleaning supplies now come packaged in tissue-sized packets containing wipes impregnated with product-use and tossgiving the illusion that sanitizing the house is as easy and effective as blowing your nose.

It has been a troubling winter—contemplating the inescapable nature of pathogens, meditating on the eternal return of housekeeping, shedding the delusion that anything is ever under control, accepting the inevitability of bacteria. You thought your house was a safe haven, but in fact it is a breeding ground, and not for good manners.

I can't wait for the warm, sunny days of summer, when I can open the doors and windows, and let everything crawl out. I plan to start a new housekeeping movement: A Clean Enough House. It will derive its basic tenets from my favorite theory of maternity: A Good Enough Mother. I will not be afraid. I will let life in. I will accept that joy can be messy; that fun comes with a few dust mites. I will wash my hands often, and I may pop my sponges into the microwave, but otherwise I plan to track dirt in from the garden, and hang the bed linens on clotheslines in the sun. I plan to

etch into my beloved butcher block the knife marks from the preparation of countless more chicken sandwiches (now that I know that the cellulose in the wood absorbs bacteria but does not release it-wood is much cleaner than plastic, I might add). I plan to sit on the ground and eat off of plates (remember picnics?). I plan to spit into my goggles to keep them clear while I swim. You know what I love best about summer? It's so unsanitary.



Dominique Browning, EDITOR



One of the challenges I've had in the past is finding a way to work with black tile that doesn't make an environment feel too dark and heavy. So when a friend called and told me about a black limestone that was being reclaimed from the Java coast, I was all ears. He told me the stone originally had been quarried in Belgium throughout the mid-1800's to use as ballast on merchant ships headed to the Spice Islands. When the stone was unloaded to make room for the goods headed back to Europe, it became tiles in wealthy

merchant houses all along the east coast of Java. He said the stone developed a rich patina from over a century of barefoot steps. I could only imagine. Jumping on the opportunity, I immediately ordered some samples. The Java stone was just as moving in person as its story had been over the phone. The rich history is befitting of its exceptional coloration and texture. And now the Java is a welcomed addition to the Ann Sacks design palette because of the way it married character and warmth to the sophistication of black.



The television is going to miss you.







may

#### THE KITCHEN ISSUE

Welcome 6 BY DOMINIQUE BROWNING

#### DOMESTIC BLISS

At Home With ... Chuck Williams 21
The founder of Williams-Sonoma shares his ideas on kitchen must-haves. BY SHAX RIEGLER
Fabric Obsession 24 Spill-proof fabrics
from Crypton. BY THADDEUS KROMELIS
Things We Love 29 A trough sink; a
fire-engine-red mixer; a fridge for cosmetics.
Elements of a Room 34 Wood is hot

in the kitchen. By MELISSA FELDMAN Kitchen News 36 The lowdown on countertop materials.

**The Best on the Best 39** Part two of our survey of top interior designers focuses on the kitchen and the bathroom.

**Larder 52** The makings for delicious desserts.

BY LORA ZARUBIN

Uncorked 56 Sagrantino is one of Italy's little-known treasures. BY JAY MCINERNEY Keeping Up 62 Caring for major appliances. BY GLENN RECCHIA

#### IN THE GARDEN

Hedge Obsessed 71 Perry Guillot's passion for the garden's green walls. BY STEPHEN ORR One Gardener's Almanac 81 Proven Winners: plants sure to thrive in your garden. BY TOM CHRISTOPHER

Grow, Cook, Eat 86 Pick fava beans when they're young and delectable. BY SARAH RAVEN Digging In 92 Ground covers add complexity. BY CHERYL MERSER

#### AMERICAN SCENE

This Month on the Design Beat 97
Architecture 98 Samuel Mockbee
dedicated his architectural genius
to uplifting the rural poor.
BY MARTIN FILLER

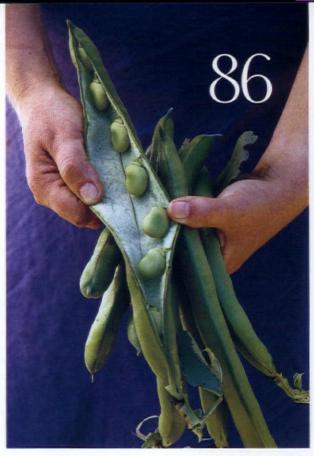
Books 105 BY KATRINE AMES Photography 106

Laura Letinsky's unsettling arrangements.

BY CAROLINE CUNNINGHAM

Sources 168 The Testy Tastemaker 170

BY MAYER RUS





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Something Old,
Something New IIO
A classic uptown apartment receives a tailored.

A classic uptown apartment receives a tailored downtown treatment. By INGRID ABRAMOVITCH

#### Double Dutch 120

Architecture and landscape exist in perfect harmony in this home created by two of the Netherlands' top design talents, Piet Boon and Piet Oudolf. BY DEBORAH NEEDLEMAN

#### Open House 132

A New York City family reimagines its Fifth Avenue apartment as an airy, loftlike space. BY ELIZABETH BLISH HUGHES

#### Family First 140

At her colorful northern California ranch, Pottery Barn design director Celia Tejada evokes the atmosphere of the Spanish village where she grew up.

BY ELIZABETH BLISH HUGHES

#### Bathing Beauties 148

Gorgeous faucets and showerheads, tiles and knobs. PRODUCED BY JEFFREY W. MILLER

#### Throwing Sparks 154

The gardens at Woolton House take the conventional English style of planting and heat it up with brilliant color, classical geometry, and the French brio of Pascal Cribier, by Sarah Rayen

#### Harry Potter's Latest Digs 164

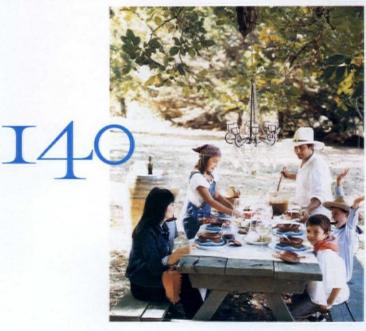
Hogwarts is home to young wizards, and after seeing the sets for the new movie, we think we'd like to live there, too.

BY INGRID ABRAMOVITCH

#### ON THE COVER

"Something Old, Something New" (page 110) features a new kitchen with lots of vintage tableware. From left; vintage cups and saucers from Ostafin Design; gilded-band dessert plates, Calvin Klein Home; gold-banded chargers, Richard Ginori; vintage hotel silver by Ginger Kilbane. Fiesole teacups and saucers by Richard Ginori. Wall-mounted Tara faucet from Dornbracht. (Proving that good design is versatile, the architect chose to install the faucet upside down.) Vase by Michael George Custom Floral. PHOTOGRAPHED BY MATTHIAS PETRUS SCHALLER. STYLED BY MICHAEL REYNOLDS.





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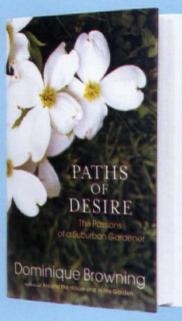
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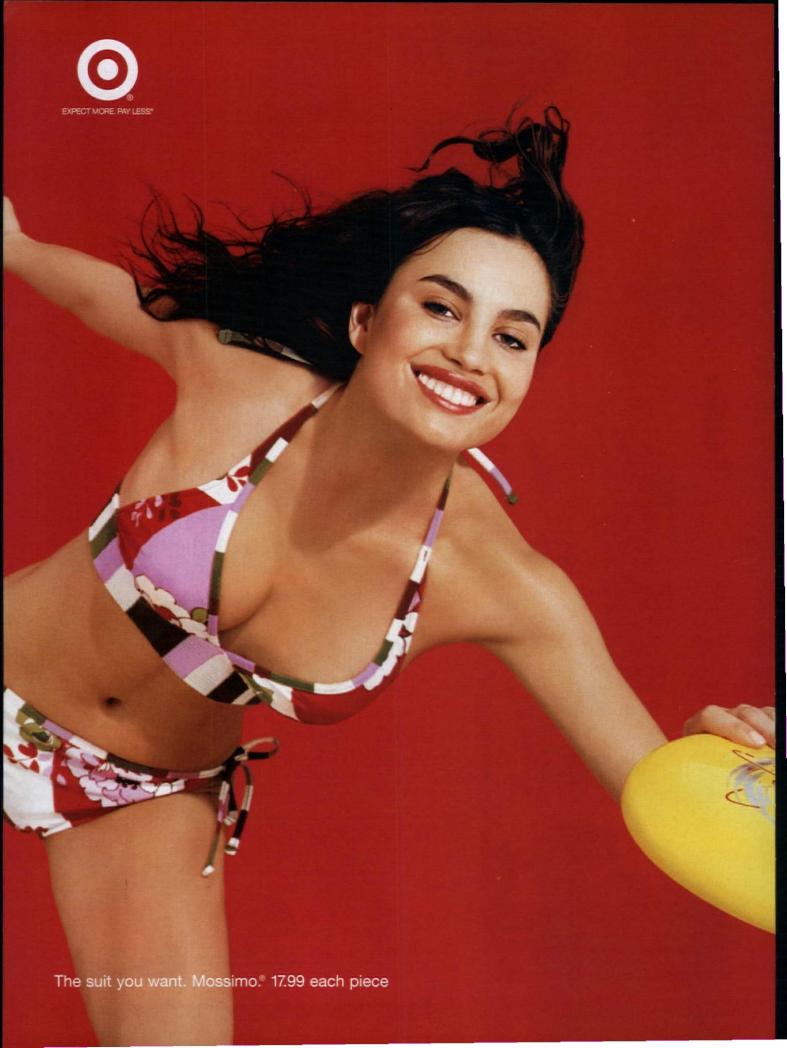
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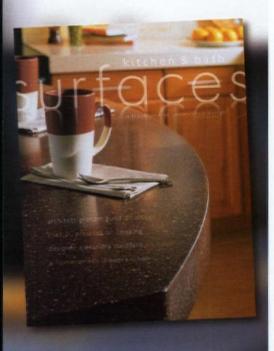


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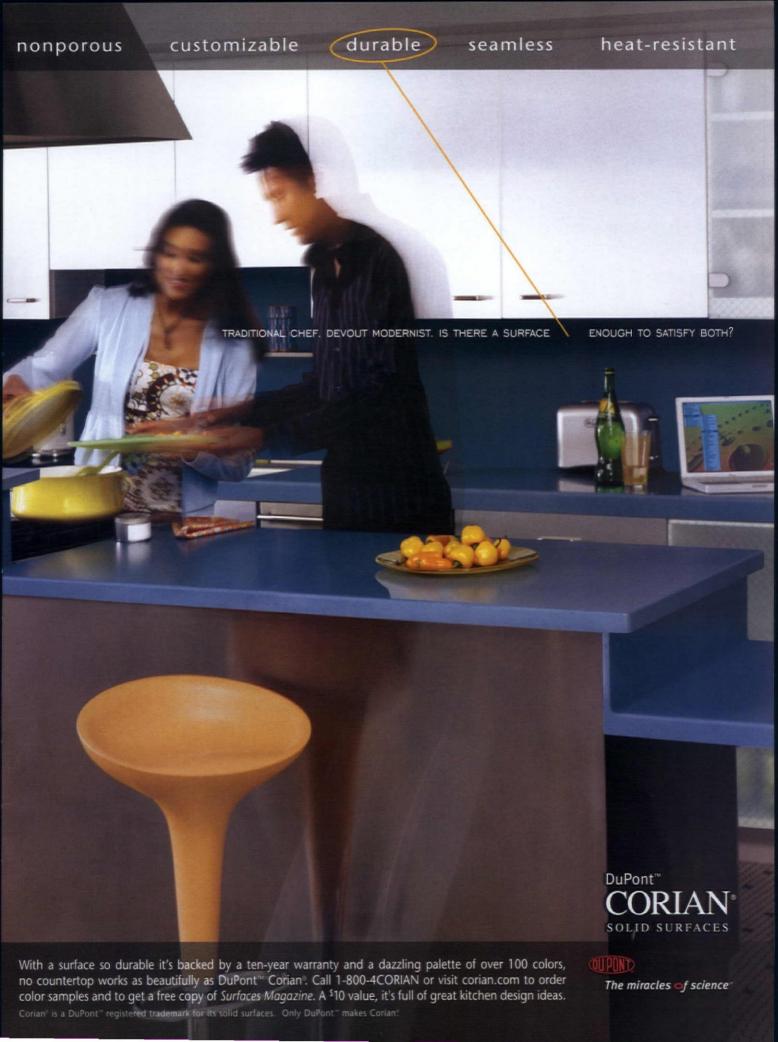
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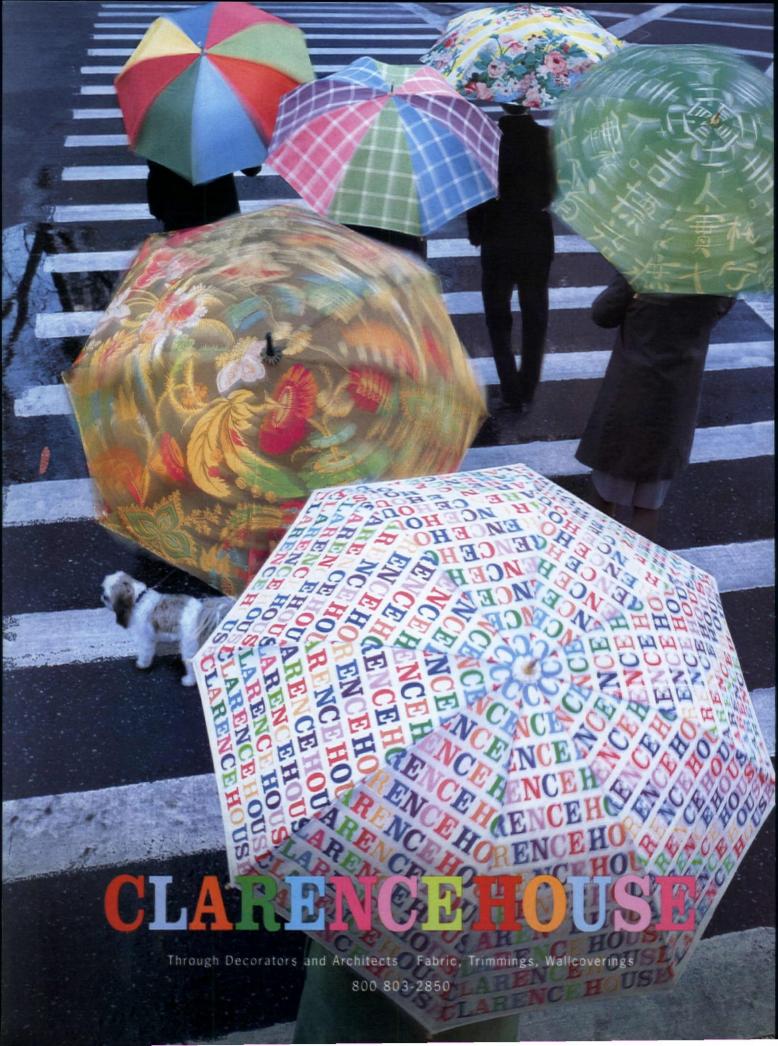
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# Domestic Bliss

SINCE FOUNDING
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IN 1956, CHUCK
WILLIAMS HAS BEEN
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CIVILIZING OF THE AMERICAN
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EVERY KITCHEN NEEDS

Chuck Williams, shown here in front of a La Cornue stove at the Williams-Sonoma flagship in San Francisco, says, "A La Cornue is built to order for each customer. I first saw one about 25 years ago and loved the beautiful design and construction."

AT HOME WITH...

CHUCK WILLIAMS

"Nobody wants to go into a little kitchen, close the door, and cook dinner by himself," says Chuck Williams. "You want to be around company; so make the kitchen comfortable and convenient." At 88, Williams has decades of experience to draw on. After World War II, he worked as a contractor in the tiny northern California community of Sonoma. But during a trip to France in 1953, he became fascinated by the variety of cooking equipment for

BY SHAX RIEGLER . PRODUCED BY LORA ZARUBIN . PHOTOGRAPHED BY MATTHEW HRANEK

#### AT HOME WITH...

#### **CHUCK WILLIAMS**

sale there, and was inspired to start importing the pieces. Back home, he set up his first shop in a former hardware store. The beautiful presentation—pots and baking dishes were displayed like art objects—and Williams's ever ready advice soon created a cult following among the town's residents. In 1958 he moved the business to San Francisco. Last year the company, which now encompasses such brands as Pottery Barn, Hold Everything, Chambers, and West Elm, did more than \$2.5 billion in sales. Friendly expertise and good old common sense are still the guiding principles of the firm. "I'll never forget one customer who was having her kitchen remodeled," Williams says. "She was so proud to buy a KitchenAid mixer, but when she took it home she found it didn't fit on the counter because the cabinets were too low. That's awful, but it can happen. So pay attention."



"Every kitchen should have a classic like The Fannie Farmer Cookbook or Joy of Cooking or a James Beard cookbook for reference. We all need a good basic cookbook to refer to, so you can look up terms or techniques that you don't quite understand from other recipes. That's what you have to do to learn to cook on your own." Rattan book holder, \$25, Sur la Table. 800-243-0852.

#### "THERE'S A WONDERFUL LITTLE CHAIN

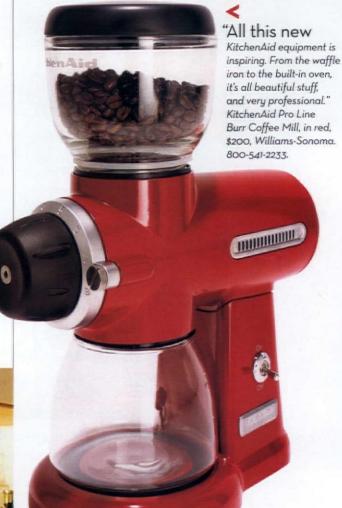
OF SHOPS IN PARIS CALLED THE KITCHEN BAZAAR. EVERY TIME I GO TO THE ONE IN MONTPARNASSE I FIND THINGS—BEAUTIFUL TOWELS OR A LITTLE TOOL—THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYWHERE ELSE."

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"I think a TV in the kitchen is great for someone who loves to watch cooking shows. The cooking shows can be done so a person at home can cook along with the chef." Sharp B4U Aquos TV with mounting bracket, \$721. 800-237-4277.







in the oven, they're very easy

than ones that are boiled."

to peel. They're so much better

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### Fabric Obsession

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hese bright cotton twills could be the best thing to happen to your kitchen since you retired that avocado green refrigerator. Crypton, a Michigan-based company, has spent years creating virtually indestructible fabrics. Widely used in hotels, restaurants, and other hightraffic venues (Disney World and the Four Seasons are two big clients), Crypton textiles are now being marketed for the home. The fabrics are remarkably soft to the touch, have a fresh look, and, most important, repel spilled coffee, wine, and even errant marker ink.

The secret is in the patented materials and weaving process, which allow upholstery to move and breathe the way other natural fabrics do, while still protecting against stains and odors. This quality makes the fabrics a practical yet sophisticated option for chair upholstery in busy kitchens or dining rooms, or even for tablecloths.

Crypton's cotton twills are sold exclusively through Robert Allen. Crypton also offers suedes, velvets, jacquards, and wovens, and is negotiating with furniture makers to offer Cryptonupholstered pieces.

At last, you can invite butterfingered friends to dine without fear.

-THADDEUS KROMELIS

Crypton's Chevron Row twill, in Coral Reef, on chair; Spring Stripe ottoman weave, in Lagoon, in background; both through Robert Allen. Kerry Joyce's Camard side chair, from Dessin Fournir.

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# Things We Love

KOHLER'S VERSATILE NEW TROUGH MAY REVOLUTIONIZE THE WAY YOU USE YOUR KITCHEN—AND IT'S GORGEOUS, TOO

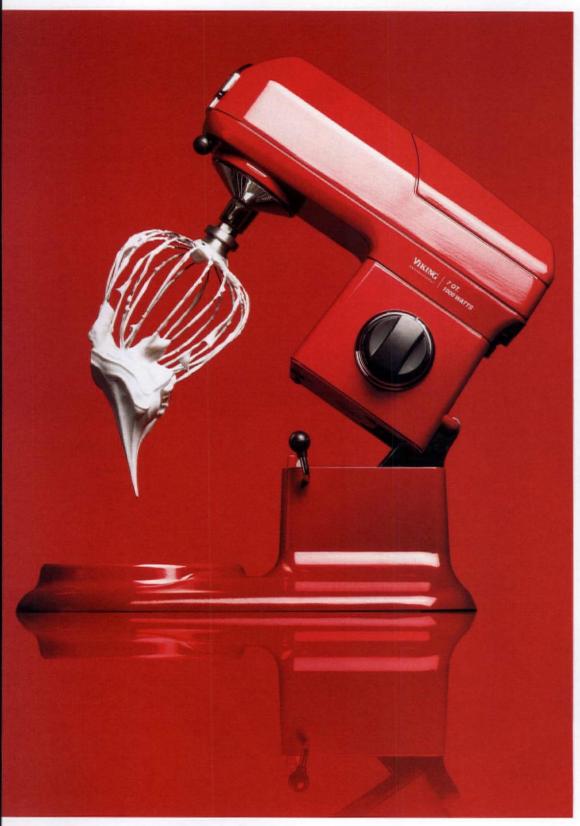
ruthfully, we have yet to discover a sink that has captured our imagination quite like Kohler's latest prep sink. The Undertone trough sink is versatile enough to use for life's mundane chores-cleaning vegetables, for instancewhile elegant enough to serve as a centerpiece for your next party when filled with ice and bottles of champagne. "We see more Americans incorporating both prep and cleanup sinks in their kitchen as the space grows larger," says Dalia Tamari of Boston's Dalia Kitchen Design. "We often recommend placing the prep sink close to the refrigerator and the stove in a convenient place for preparing food," she explains, "Usually the best spot tends to be on an island." This stainlesssteel sink comes in four lengths-22, 33, 43, and 60 inches-perfect for long islands. Consumers can place one or more faucets. in styles of their choice, around the trough as they see fit. The narrow, 8-inch standard sink profile can be covered with a cutting board when more countertop space is needed. If only everything this practical could also be so beautiful. -T. K.

Kohler's 60-inch Undertone trough sink, \$1,022. Polishedchrome Clarinet faucet, \$407, also from Kohler. Meissen porcelain Bird and Flower vase, \$5,250. Jonathan Adler's oval Essential vase, \$50. Le Prince's Jardinier pruning clippers, \$95, through Treillage.



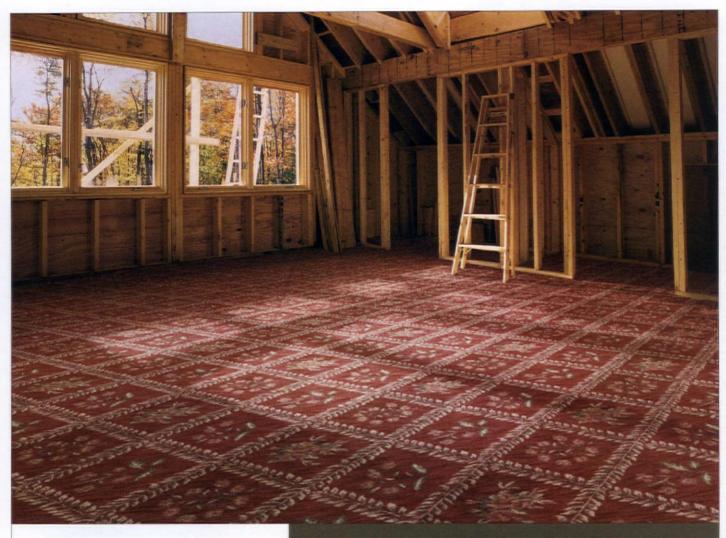
### Things We Love

BURLY YET BEAUTIFUL, THE VIKING PROFESSIONAL STAND MIXER IS AN APPLIANCE THAT'S HARD TO BEAT BY INGRID ABRAMOVITCH



art mechanical souschef, part countertop sculpture: even in minimalist kitchens. a stand mixer is often the one kitchen tool on view. In the past year, we've seen KitchenAid's classic version. which now comes in 25 colors, joined by stylish new models from Jenn-Air, Hamilton Beach, Bosch, and Electrolux. But the latest model to catch our eve is the Viking Professional Stand Mixer. The Mississippi-based company has already created tools to entice cuisiniers of all stripes. from Gallic gourmets to barbecue barons, with its signature ranges, cookware, refrigerators, and outdoor grills. Now Viking wants to take over our countertops with a full line of small appliances. The first introductions include a blender and this stand mixer, which is available in five- and sevenquart versions. With 1,000 watts of power, the larger model can knead the toughest bread doughs but is gentle enough to charm egg whites into soft meringue peaks. It seems that every conceivable optional attachment is available: meat grinder, juice extractor, pasta maker, blender, slicer/shredder. And ingenious hidden wheels let you easily push the machine across a counter. Factor in its muscular good looks and six choices of color finish (including our favorite, red), and you'll want to give this kitchen helper a prime counter spot.

Viking Professional 7-Quart Stand Mixer in bright red, \$550 (5-quart model, \$440). Shown with stainless-steel whip attachment. vikingrange.com.



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### Things We Love

BRING A BIT OF THE KITCHEN INTO THE BATHROOM. BISZET'S COSMETICS COOLER IS THE PERFECT COLD STORAGE BY JENNIFER TUNG

f you thought Grace Kelly cornered the market on cool beauty, consider the new cosmetics refrigerator from German manufacturer Biszet. The sleek, sexy mini-fridge was designed to blend into the chicest bathroom, either mounted on the wall like an extra medicine cabinet or stacked on top of space-saving shelves. At last beauty junkies-accustomed to storing their fancy face creams and eye gels next to the eggs, milk, and leftover moo shu-have an utterly civilized and convenient way to keep precious products, especially organic and all-natural ones, chilled. A bonus for skin-care (and gadget) obsessives: the fridge is calibrated to store specific items at different optimal temperatures. The top shelf is set at 53 to 56 degrees for collagen creams; the second hovers between 46 and 50 degrees for preservative-free products; and the bottom shelf ranges from 41 to 46 degrees for vitamin-based creams. Of course, the majority of makeup and skin-care potions are formulated to remain stable at room temperature for up to three years. But try telling that to a woman whose bathroom is cluttered with watery sunscreens, rancid wrinkle creams, and strange-smelling mascaras. "If you take steamy showers, the heat and humidity in your

Biszet B11 Cosmetic Cooler on shelving, \$3,500, Julian's Fine Cabinetry, Scottsdale, AZ. 800-243-8828. PRODUCTS Top, from left: Chantecaille body cream set, \$75, Bergdorf Goodman: Prada Lightening Gel/Face, \$90; Lancôme Hydra Zen Night moisturizer, \$50. Middle, from left: **Origins Frolic Floral Fantasy** Mist, \$30: Paul Smith Men Eau de Cologne, \$35; Clinique Clarifying Lotion 2, \$18; Sabon's Ginger Orange Bath Milk, \$17. Bottom, from left: Estée Lauder Pure Color Nail Lacquer, \$18; Almay One Coat Mascara, \$7; Bourjois Pour la Vie lipstick, \$14, Sephora; Estée Lauder Re-Nutriv Ultimate Lifting Cream, \$250. At bottom: Penhaligon's Lavandula Classic Candle, \$30.

bathroom can absolutely lead to products breaking down faster," says Dr. Gary Grove, vice president of the Skin Study Center, an independent cosmetics testing lab in Philadelphia. Colognes and eaux de toilette benefit from cold storage, too, says Annette Green, president emerita of the Fragrance Foundation in New York: "Heat and humidity can change the balance of oils and cause evaporation. Chilling them is a terrific idea." All that aside, the Biszet does the simple jobs. It keeps lipsticks and cream blushes from melting, and renders lotions, gels, and masks refreshingly cool and soothing. So go ahead: pamper yourself, princess style.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY JONATHAN KANTOR
PRODUCED BY VIRGINIA TUPKER



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# ElementsofaRoom

### USE WOOD ACCESSORIES TO WARM UP TODAY'S ULTRA-SLEEK, HIGH-TECH KITCHENS BY MELISSA FELDMAN

Off-center scoops in Ouf egg cups, \$17 each, put a stylish spin on an often kitschy service piece. Wkittypong for C. Quoi. illicodesign.com.

> Bring a bit of design history to your table with the Peugeot Banquet pepper mill, \$70, based on a design from 1879. Broadway Panhandler. 866-266-5927.



Serve a Caesar salad fit for a design maven in this curvaceous salad bowl made of smooth mango wood. Large Marta bowl, \$95, Armani Casa, NYC. 212-334-1271.

> Create an extra prep or serving area with a freestanding island. Plain & Fancy's walnut island in fireside stain, from \$2,700, is a fine piece of furniture for your kitchen. 800-447-9006.

Known for porcelain, Villeroy & Boch has introduced a collection of other accessories in wood! Small and large elm bread baskets, \$40 and \$100. 800-845-5376.

Kathy Swaim's handcarved canary wood rolling pin, \$60, feels great in your hands. E-mail: onegoodturn@crocker.com.

Eco-friendly bamboo is an ideal material for chic party plates, but don't put them in the dishwasher. Nine-inch plates in organic-bamboo veneer, \$7 for eight, Broadway Panhandler. For more, houseandgarden.com.

You'll get a good grip on the beech knob of Nigella Lawson's Parmesan grater, \$20. All you need is a hunk of hard cheese. nigellahome.com. sheer bliss ROBERT ALLEN fabric trim furniture www.robertallendesign.com 800.333.3777

### OUR GUIDE TO THE OPTIONS FOR KITCHEN COUNTERTOPS BY CARA TAKAKJIAN

SLATE For a smooth and cool feel to your kitchen, use slate. Pros Nonporous, therefore doesn't stain. • Resists chemicals and water without need of sealant.

Natural texture and color.

 Won't fade. Cons Softer than granite.
 Could chip or crack if something heavy is dropped on it. Sheldon slate, \$72 per sq. ft.

SOAPSTONE A composite of several minerals, soapstone withstands heat and spills. Pros Won't burn or stain. Low maintenance. Cons Soapstone can feel somewhat chalky in texture, which can take some getting used to. Darkens over time. Green Mountain soapstone, \$70 to \$85 per sq. ft., installed.

BUTCHER BLOCK For those who consider their kitchen a workshop, not just a room to admire from afar, butcher block is ideal. Pros You can cut directly on its surface. Makes entire counter a prep area. Inexpensive.

Cons Requires regular maintenance to protect from water and stains.

May warp or split. John Boos & Co., \$27 to \$60 per sq. ft.

LAVASTONE This Pyrolave enameled material comes in 15 gorgeous colors. Hardened at 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit, it obtains a natural hard enamel finish. Pros Rich color palette.

Resists heat and stains. Never fades.

Cons Pigment may vary from slab to slab. Enamel can show scratches.

Expensive. Pyrolave USA, \$250 per sq. ft.

### **ENGINEERED STONES**

Zodiaq, top, and Okite, bottom, are man-made quartz-based materials. Both surfaces come in myriad colors, and Okite offers translucent finishes.

Pros No sealing or polishing. Resists scratches and heat. Very strong.

Cons Expensive. Zodiaq, \$60 to \$115 per sq. ft.; Okite, \$45 to \$75 per sq. ft.

36

FORMICA Laminates are popular due to their sturdy yet malleable nature. Pros Flexible and easy to install.

• Water-resistant (when edges are properly sealed). Cons Can't withstand high heat. • May stain, scratch, or show burn marks. Formica Brand Laminate, \$45 to \$80 per sq. ft., installed.

METALS For a sleek look, go for a stainless-steel countertop.

Pros Doesn't stain; easy to clean.

Stands up to high temperatures—no need for trivets. Cool, smooth surface is good for preparing food. Cons Scratches easily. Dulls knives. Can be dented in certain situations. Sometimes noisy.

Eskay Metal Fabricating stainless steel, \$54 to \$107 per sq. ft.

concrete The strongest natural surface. Pros Resists scratches and heat. Cons Can stain.

Potential for curling or warping in new installations. Imperfections such as cracks or discoloration are

as cracks or discoloration are common (though considered part of its appeal). • Requires monthly waxing. Buddy Rhodes, \$65 to \$80 per sq. ft.

CORIAN A practical and

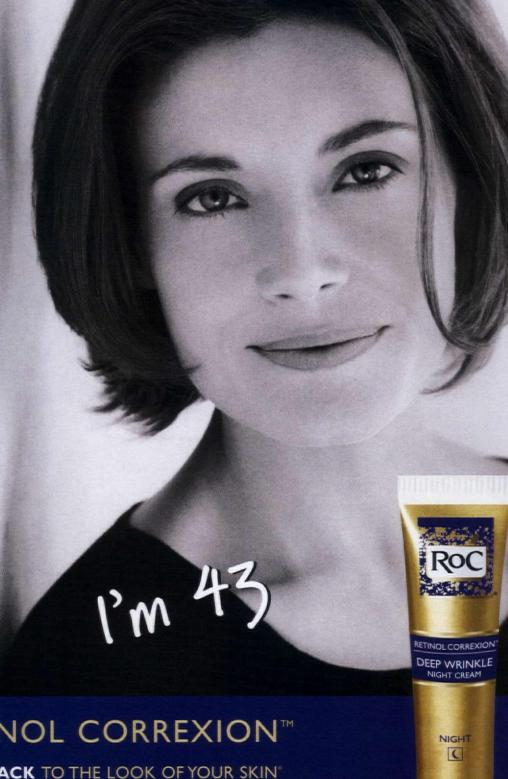
affordable surface, Corian is nonporous, so sealants and monthly upkeep are not necessary, and stains and scratches can be easily rubbed out.

Pros Wide variety of colors. Easy to repair. Cons Not meant to withstand prolonged high heat. May crack as it cools. Corian, \$45 to \$75 per sq. ft., installed.

GRANITE Perhaps the most popular natural stone used for kitchen countertops. Pros Extremely strong. You can cut, roll dough, and place hot pots directly on surface. Wide variety of colors.

Cons Requires sealant about once a year. Color may not be consistent throughout. Relatively expensive. Cold Spring granite, \$70 to \$100 per sq. ft.

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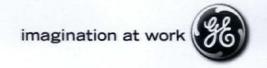


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True love is a GE Profile kitchen. Contemporary beauty is united with easy-to-use electronic controls and sensors. The result? The ability to make every meal amazing in a

room where everyone wants to hang out. Fashion and technology may seem an unlikely pair. But at GE Profile, they fall in love and make incredible kitchens together.







### KITCHEN & BATH

In part two of our survey (the first appeared in the April issue), in which hundreds of top interior designers rate virtually everything we use at home, we zero in on perhaps the two most important rooms. Certainly they're the most functional, and deserve all the attention you can lavish on them. So, if you'll excuse the mixed metaphor: turn on the taps, and let's get cooking.

The Industrial Luxe kitchen faucet set with spray (not shown) in matte chrome, \$950, by Waterworks. waterworks.com.

### **FAUCETS**

THE TOP 3

WATERWORKS

GROHE

DORNBRACHT

THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically)

CHICAGO FAUCETS

FRANKE

HERBEAU CREATIONS

KALLISTA

KOHLER

**KWC FAUCETS** 

ROHL

PHOTOGRAPHED BY FRANCESCO MOSTO

### THE BEST ON THE BEST KITCHEN



### THE TOP 3

MIELE Возсн ASKO

#### THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically) DACOR FISHER & PAYKEL GE JENN-AIR

KITCHENAID SUB-ZERO VIKING WHIRLPOOL

### COUNTERS

#### THE TOP 3

GRANITE MARBLE STONE

### THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically) CONCRETE

CORIAN

LIMESTONE

SOAPSTONE STAINLESS STEEL

The fully integrated dishwashers in Miele's Incognito series are easy to operate-there's only one button to push-and blissfully quiet. \$1,249 to \$1,699. miele.com.

Harlequin tiles in Giallo

collection. \$52 per sq. ft.

Antico/Negro Marquina from

Walker Zanger's Opus Anticato

### >SINKS

### THE TOP 3

FRANKE KOHLER WATERWORKS

### THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically)

BLANCO

ELKAY

GERMAN SILVER SINK HERREAU CREATIONS

> KALLISTA KINDRED



### <TILE

### THE TOP 3

ANN SACKS WALKER ZANGER PARIS CERAMICS

### THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically)

ANTIQUE TILES ARTISTIC TILE

COUNTRY FLOORS

NATURAL TILES

STONE SOURCE STUDIUM

WATERWORKS

Franke's stainlesssteel Magnum with Prestige bowl has a wooden knife rack and utensil and bottle wells. \$4,500. Bottom grid, \$75. frankeksd.com. (Cont. on page 49)

# THE BEST ON THE BEST KITCHEN



< FLOORS

THE TOP 3

PERGO

ARMSTRONG

WILSONART

THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically) AMTICO

MOHAWK HARD SURFACE

homedepot.com.

CABINETS

THE TOP 3

CUSTOM

WOOD-MODE

BOFFI

THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically)

BULTHAUP

CHRISTOPHER PEACOCK

CABINETRY

POGGENPOHL

RUTT HANDCRAFTED CABINETRY

SIEMATIC

SMALLBONE ST. CHARLES Sub-Zero's 700BC has refrigerator and freezer drawers. \$3,405. subzero.com.

<STOVES

THE TOP 3

VIKING

WOLF

LA CORNUE

THE TOP 3 SUB-ZERO

TRAULSEN

REFRIGERATORS

VIKING

THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically) GE

JENN-AIR

KITCHENAID

THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically)

AGA

DACOR DCS

GAGGENAU

GARLAND

MIELE THERMADOR

Viking's Professional Series 24-inch-wide gas companion range in stainless steel, from \$2,800. Ideal for small kitchens. vikingrange.com.

### OPENHOUSE

### Never Follow

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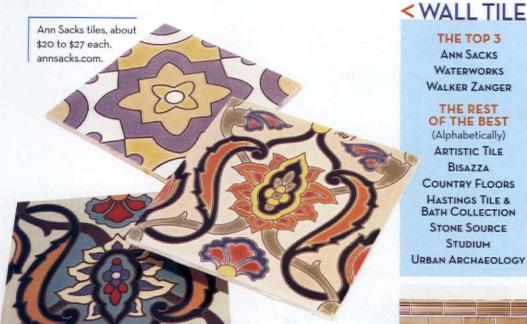
Go to neverfollow.com for continual updates on how you can be a part of these Never Follow events. Check the Web site for information on how to attend the following:

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ADU . WEEKEND FILM FESTIVAL STARRING WILLIAM H. MACY



### THE BEST ON THE BEST BATH



### **V FIXTURES**

#### THE TOP 3

WATERWORKS KOHLER

DORNBRACHT

#### THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically) ANN SACKS

DURAVIT

HERBEAU CREATIONS

KALLISTA

LEFROY BROOKS

P. E. GUERIN

SHERLE WAGNER



### >TUBS

#### THE TOP 3

KOHLER WATERWORKS KALLISTA

#### THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically)

AMERICAN STANDARD

DURAVIT

HERBEAU CREATIONS

JACUZZI

PHILIPPE STARCK

PORCHER

URBAN ARCHAEOLOGY



Pier vanity, \$1,330; Sugarloaf slab, \$1,300; sink, \$260; Industrial Luxe gooseneck faucet with lever handles, \$645, all

from Waterworks.

### THE TOP 3

WATERWORKS ANN SACKS

WALKER ZANGER

### THE REST OF THE BEST

(Alphabetically)

AMTICO

ARTISTIC TILE

BISAZZA

COUNTRY FLOORS

NATURAL STONE

PARIS CERAMICS

STONE SOURCE

URBAN ARCHAEOLOGY



While everyone else was fiddling with headlights or stiffer bristles, someone went and reinvented the whole machine.

While other vacuum manufacturers toyed with things like height adjusters or new attachments, James Dyson worked on solving the real problem with vacuums—they lose suction power. After testing over 5,000 prototypes, he created the first vacuum cleaner that doesn't lose suction. And now, it's here in America. So, come see a Dyson today. It's the vacuum. Reinvented. For retailers near you, visit dyson.com

dyson



### DOMESTIC BLISS Larde

NEW AND OLD TOOLS FOR BAKERS

Though my repertoire of desserts is somewhat old-fashioned, I'm constantly stocking my larder with new products. One thing that never changes, however, is the pleasure that goes with sharing something homemade with friends.

These Multi-mini Bundt pans, \$26, from Sur La Table, offer a variety of shapes. 800-243-0852. The Bundt cake mixes. \$14, from Williams-Sonoma are far superior to other mixes. 877-812-6235.



The King Arthur Flour Baker's Companion

(Countryman Press, \$35) has excellent recipes. The company's Queen Guinevere flour is unsurpassed for cakes or cupcakes. \$3.95 for 5 lbs. 800-827-6836. See houseandgarden.com for recipe.

I can't count on my memory when I'm baking. so the West Bend triple timer, \$30, from Bridge Kitchenware is indispensable, especially when timing more than one thing. bridgekitchenware.com.







This little invention from OXO is a wonderfully practical tool for measuring and a must-have when you are baking. Use it for wet ingredients, and it will easily take the place of your old measuring spoons. \$5. oxo.com.



Teflon as the new technology for baking, because silicone is so easy to use and simple to clean. These rolling and baking mats, \$12 to \$20, from Sur La Table, and madeleine cookie molds, \$25. from Williams-Sonoma. are silicone at its best.

Silicone is replacing

made in France Str. PAT

MADE IN FRANCE / ROLL

Powdered sugar, \$3, from Wholesome Sweeteners (800-680-1896) and organic vanilla extract from Nielsen-Massey, \$20 for 4 oz. at Williams-Sonoma, will be your new best friends. Use them when you make frosting for your favorite cake.

# HOUSE

### HOUSE & GARDEN SHINES BRIGHTLY AMONG THE DESIGN SPHERE'S LEADING LIGHTS

THE COLOR PARTY AT HAYDEN PLANETARIUM TO BENEFIT DIFFA CO-SPONSORED BY JEEP AND PANTONE















- 2 House & Garden Editor Dominique Browning, James Keach, Jane Seymour and House & Garden VP & Publisher Lori Burgess
- 3 Dominique Browning: Jim Druckman, New York Design Center; Adrian Kahan and Debra Kanabis of Ralph Lauren
- 5 Robert Rufino, Tiffany & Co.; Celerie Kemble
- 7 Eric Cohler, Stephen Elrod, Bart Halpern, John Barman, Kelly Graham







8 Beth Greene, Kravet; Marc Greene; Kim Huebner, Grange; 9 John Bellando and Jill Bright, Condé Nast; Gunther and Robin Gordon, Kravet



Bright. 10 Janet Schlesinger; House & Garden Design Editor Mayer Rus

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- 11 House & Garden Editor Dominique Browning, Kate and Andy Spade
- 12 Peter Nicholson and Colette Cutrone of Rolex
- 13 House & Garden VP & Publisher Lori Burgess; Ronald Grimaldi, Rose Cumming; Cynthia Frank; Olivier Stip, Cartier

### GARDEN'S ELITE COLOR PANEL



14 Scott Salvator, Mayer Rus, Bunny Williams, Lori Burgess, Tony Ingrao, Celerie Kemble, Lee Eiseman of the Pantone Institute. More than 250 people attended House & Garden's Color Panel at the D&D Building





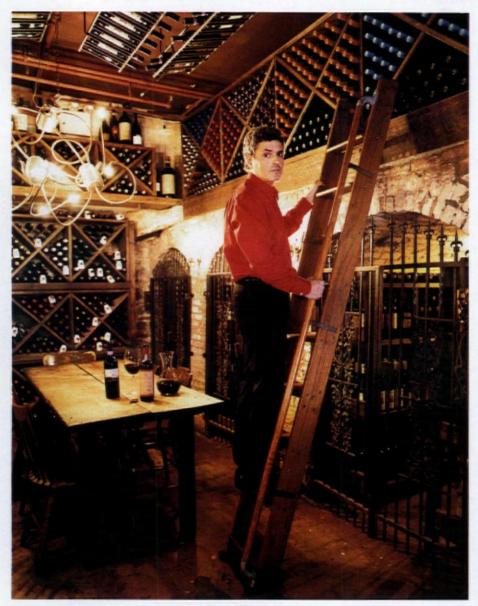
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# Uncorked

### **UMBRIAN SECRETS**

SAGRANTINO, A DARK SPICY BEAUTY FROM A SMALL AREA NEAR MONTEFALCO, IS ONE OF ITALY'S LITTLE-KNOWN TREASURES BY JAY MCINERNEY



Roberto Paris in the cellar of New York City's II Buco, where he stocks an extensive selection of Sagrantino di Montefalco from his native Umbria. fyou haven't heard of Sagrantino di Montefalco, you're in excellent company. "I've had sommeliers from Italy come in who don't know these wines," says Roberto Paris, the urbane, softspoken manager and wine director of Il Buco in New York's East Village. Paris has the advantage of having been born a few miles from the town of Montefalco, about halfway between Perugia and Spoleto in Umbria. "The very first bottled wine I ever drank was a Sagrantino," he says, wincing at the memory. "It was terrible."

A few years ago, when Paris poured me my first Sagrantino, a 1995 Paolo Bea, I had a very different reaction. I felt kind of like Keats encountering Chapman's Homer. Or like I did when I first encountered the work of Umbrian painter Piero della Francesca-so singular and weird, compared with the work of his Roman and Florentine contemporaries. The Bea was a dark beauty in a homemade dress-I was thinking of Michael Corleone's smoldering Sicilian bride in The Godfather. In an era when Italian wines were starting to taste like they came from the Napa Valley, this was a wine with soul.

When I went home that night and tried to learn more, my reference library wasn't much help. The Oxford Companion to Wine devoted an uncharacteristically uninformative inch of column space to the Sagrantino grape, noting that Sagrantino di Montefalco received its DOCG status only in the mid-'90s (1992, actually). Oz Clarke's New Wine Atlas covers Umbria in a single paragraph. Paolo Bea wasn't even

listed in Gambero Rosso's *Italian Wines*, the Italian wine bible, although three other makers of the mysterious Sagrantino di Montefalco had entries.

I started looking for Sagrantino on Italian wine lists here in New York, discovering a small, diverse range of wines, most of them fleshy, powerful, bitter, and spicy. Sometimes I was reminded of Syrah, or even petite sirah. Sagrantino is fatter, richer, and more tannic than Sangiovese, the dominant grape in neighboring Tuscany. The ideal Sagrantino, to me,

# OPEN HOUSE

### THE BEST OF CHICAGO FOR CHICAGO DESIGNERS

Join House & Garden Special Projects Editor Brooke Stoddard for brunch and a lively panel discussion about the best of Chicago design with leading area designers, Alessandra Branca, Leslie Jones and others. The event celebrates House & Garden's The Best on the Best design initiative, a landmark survey of the nation's top interior designers about their preferred brands and products across a broad range of home design categories. By invitation only.



THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2004

Time: 11:00 A.M.- 12:30 P.M.

Place: The Merchandise Mart Chicago

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For more information, contact your nearest Lennox dealer, visit lennox.com (AOL keyword: LENNOX) or call I-800-9-LENNOX. Call soon because this event only lasts from March 22—May 31, 2004.



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### Uncorked DOMESTIC BLISS

tastes like blackberries and bitter chocolate dusted with cinnamon, nutmeg, and clove.

"The origin of the grape is very mysterious," Paris told me recently. "One theory is that the Crusaders brought it back from the Middle East." Presumably, if it were of Roman or Etruscan origin, it would have been disseminated more widely. For whatever reason, the cultivation of Sagrantino is limited to a tiny area around the town of Montefalco. Until recently, most of the grapes were dried to produce a sweet passito, and a small fraction were used to make Communion wine for the sacramenti. The recorded history of the dry red begins in 1971, when Arnaldo Caprai founded his winery. Caprai is the pioneer who essentially created Sagrantino di Montefalco as we know it-if we know it. The relative obscurity of the wine is partly a function of its small production—as far as I can tell, there are only 10 or 12 serious producers, and most of them are making no more than a couple of thousand cases. According to Paris, the other problem-this is Italy, after all-is that "squabbling prevents them from working together."

Caprai is the only producer turning out enough wine to make much of an impact on the marketplace, and the only one who has really taken a scientific approach, experimenting with clones and rootstock. More to the point, his wines are superb and, unlike those of his neighbors, somewhat consistent in character. The funky wines of Paolo Bea, Caprai's rival for the esteem of Sagrantino buffs, often taste different not only from vintage to vintage but even from bottle to bottle. I imagine Bea stomping the grapes with his feet and bottling by hand—and I prefer to retain those images rather than calling his importer, Neal Rosenthal, to get the facts. In matters of the heart, and of the lower appetites, mystery can often be more stimulating than knowledge.

### THE OENO FILE SAGRANTINO DI MONTEFALCO

■ 1999 PAOLO BEA SECCO MONTEFALCO SAGRANTINO The biggest, boldest, wildest Sagrantino I've encountered. Explodes from the glass, spritzing the air with its funky perfume. Sinfully delicious now, it

will develop for years, \$75

■ 1999 ARNALDO-CAPRAI COLLEPIANO SAGRANTINO DI MONTEFALCO

A really agile balancing act between power and finesse. Powerful black cherry fruit, with cinnamon and clove highlights. A great place to start your education. \$50

- 1999 RUGGERI SAGRANTINO DI MONTEFALCO Lush, ripe, concentrated, and smoky, this brooding beauty is worth a trip to Il Buco in New York, which imports most of the wine's production. \$75 on the wine list
- 1998 SCACCIADIAVOLI SAGRANTINO DI MONTEFALCO My first note says "Rubenesque!" This is a bodice burster—ripe, voluptuous, with just a touch of toasty new oak and a long sweet finish. \$30
- 1998 ANTONELLI SAGRANTINO DI MONTEFALCO A fierce, old-style Sagrantino that demands a little time in the glass, or a nice slab of beef to cut through the tannins. \$37



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model, \$16 for the two bottle. builtny.com.



One thing I can swear to: Bea doesn't use new oak barriques, which is one of the reasons his wines are so je ne sais quoi. Other producers are doing so, and while new oak can round out the rough edges of Sagrantino, it can also, in the wrong hands, make the wine taste dangerously similar to Tuscan cabernet or Australian Shiraz. Such is the case with Còlpetrone, which regularly gets the top three-glass award from Gambero Rosso (who, scandalously, still has no listing for Bea) and tastes to me like a good cabernet from, say, Stellenbosch, South Africa. Scacciadiavoli switched to new barriques with its '98 vintage without losing too much funky Sagrantino soul.

This is supposed to be the part of the column where I tell

you what a great value these obscure wines are. Sorry. A good Sagrantino costs more than a famous Chianti, if less than a famous Napa cabernet. One of the most reasonable Sagrantinos right now is Antonelli, not to be confused with the giant Florentine firm of Antinori. But the big firms are getting into the area—recently, the Cecchi family from Tuscany bought Tenuta Alzatura in Montefalco.

Vintage conditions in Montefalco are usually similar to those in nearby Chianti. The '98 was good, while the '99 and 2000 both look to be very good, very ripe vintages. Some producers are raising prices in the wake of these vintages and the growing cult status of the wines, not to mention the sickening decline of the dollar relative to the euro. Frankly, I'm ambivalent about helping to spread the word and thereby increase the demand—but, hey, that's my job. Just try not to tell too many of your friends.



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FOR THE WAY IT'S MADE."

# KeepingUp

### MAINTAINING KITCHEN APPLIANCES BY GLENN RECCHIA

ome years ago I acquired a small paperback entitled *How to Make Your Car Last Almost Forever.* I had just bought my first new car and thought how splendid it would be to never have to purchase another. The point of the book was that with basic scheduled maintenance one could indeed prolong the life of a vehicle. I held on to that car for ten years. With high-end household appliances now costing quite a bit more than I paid for the car, I've come to realize that they, too, will last longer with proper upkeep. I recommend the following basic maintenance for major kitchen appliances.

THE REFRIGERATOR I can't count the number of Sub-Zero owners who don't realize that the refrigerator's condenser needs regular cleaning to prevent overheating. If you have a Sub-Zero, remove the condenser's grille every six months. Because the aluminum fins inside are easily damaged, I begin by dusting with a gentle tool

like the Total Reach duster (ungerglobal.com; 800-833-6100). Next, use the soft brush attachment of your vacuum to remove more dust, and finish by brushing with a refrigerator coil brush, available at hardware stores. On refrigerators with standard condenser coils, vacuum these every six months. On all refrigerators, every few months remove the toe grille, located at floor level, and pass the duster below. On a more regular basis, wipe refrigerator shelves weekly with a well-wrung, soapy towel. If there is a drip pan, remove it monthly and wash in hot, sudsy water.

attention to drips, spatters, and overflowing pots can eliminate repairs later on. To keep the tiny orifices of a gas cooking burner clean, use a fine wire brush, available from the paints department of your local hardware store. If spills occur while you are cooking, cover them with salt, both on top of the stove and in the oven, as soon as possible. Later removal, when surfaces are cool, will be a snap. For more obstinate spills, check your manual's instructions. I use Scotch-Brite's scratchproof Dobie cleaning pad with a paste of baking soda or Bon Ami. Rinse well and dry. Avoid using ammonia on stove surfaces; it can

High-end kitchen
appliances will last longer
with periodic cleaning.
Tiny wire brushes, \$3 to \$6,
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discolor some metal. For weekly upkeep, wash burner grates in the dishwasher along with hob caps and other removable parts. With a crevice tool, vacuum dried bits of food and wash the surface of the stove with a nontoxic degreaser such as Shaklee's Basic I (shaklee.com). The inside of a range should be inspected once a month and cleaned with a generous spray of Basic I. Cover the kitchen floor underneath the stove with a waterproof drop cloth and leave the liquid to work overnight. In the morning, wipe clean and rinse well. Never use commercial cleaning products on self-cleaning ovens. Just use a water-dampened rag to remove any residue after the oven has cooled.

prolonging the life of a dishwasher is to avoid clogging. That's why I always rinse dishes before inserting them in the dishwasher. Some machines have a filter, which should be inspected every week. Shake it in a trash can to remove any debris. (Wear rubber gloves

if you find broken glass shards.) Wash the filter in warm, sudsy water and brush it clean. Once a week, wipe the dishwasher's sides and exterior clean with Windex or plain water and soap. Twice a year, I clean the interior of my dishwasher by pouring a cup of white vinegar into the bottom.

Put the machine through the wash and rinse cycles, but shut it off before it goes into the dry cycle.

STOVE HOOD Most ventilation hoods have

aluminum filters that can be cleaned in the dishwasher on the pots-and-pans cycle. Check the filter monthly, and remove it to clean when greasy. At the same time, clean the fan blade behind the filter. (Remember to shut off the electric current first.) Again, Basic I is an excellent choice here. Unfortunately, if you cook a lot, some grease will remain trapped in the ductwork. A technician with steam-cleaning equipment can resolve this problem. Consult your Yellow Pages and schedule him once a year. Your range hood's interior and exterior will benefit from a wipe down with your favorite cleanser on a weekly basis.

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### essentials

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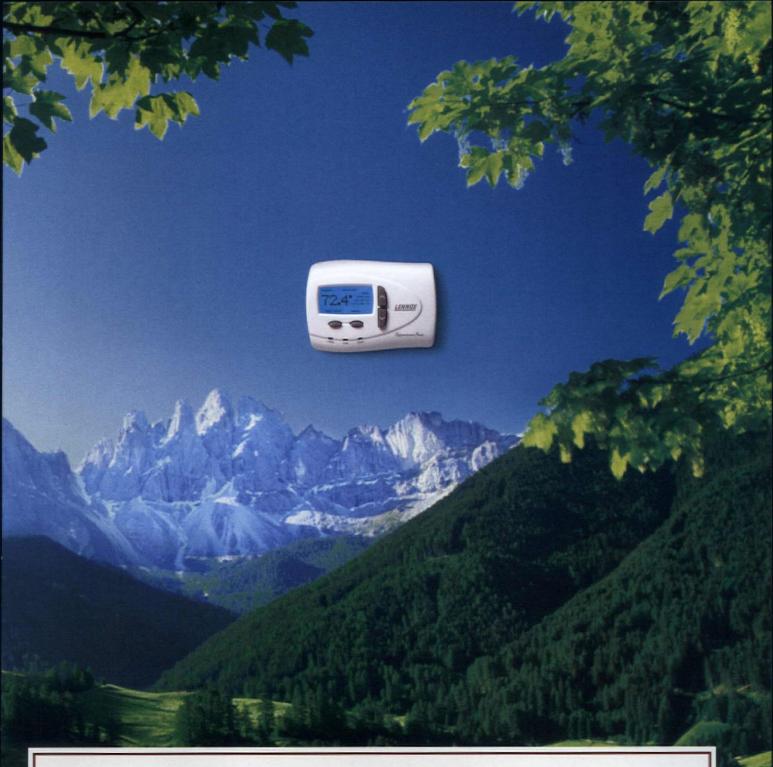
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# ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

### essentials



DIMMERS Maestro dimmer shown in Ochre



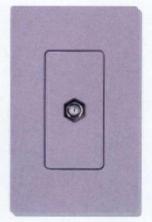
**SWITCHES** Diva\* switch shown in Blue Mist



FAN CONTROLS Diva\* fan control shown in Hot



RECEPTACLES GFCI receptacle shown in Midnight



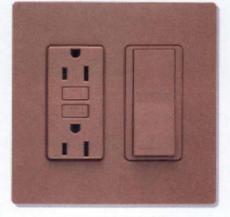
CABLE JACKS shown in Lilac



PHONE JACKS shown in Sea Glass



DIMMERS Diva- dimmer shown in Terracotta

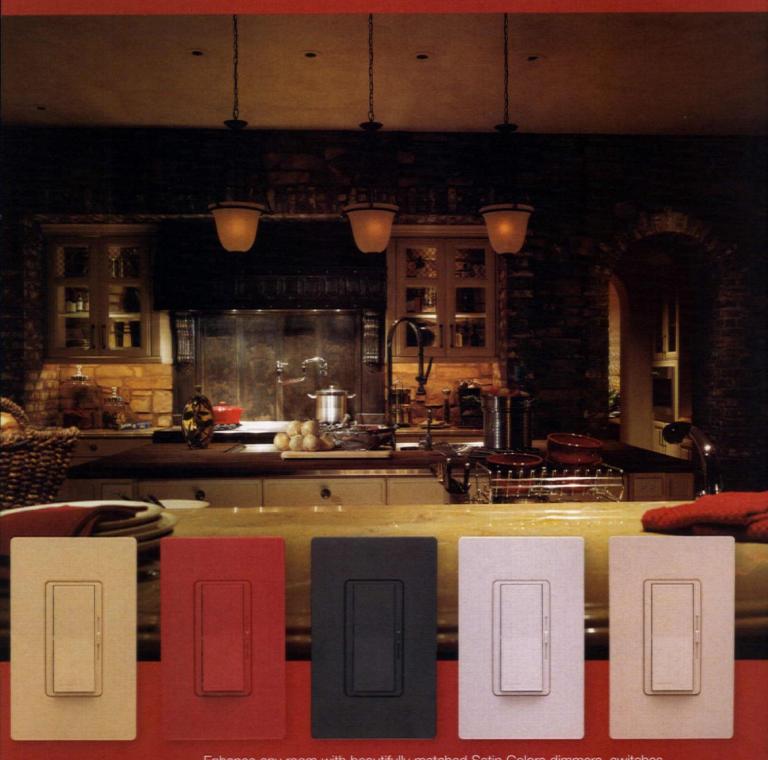


A COORDINATED LOOK 2-gang wallplate with GFCI receptacle and switch shown in Terracotta

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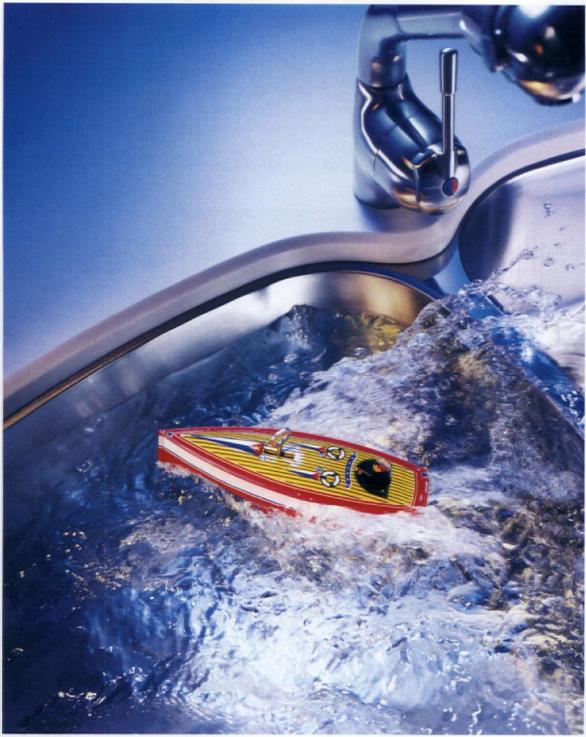
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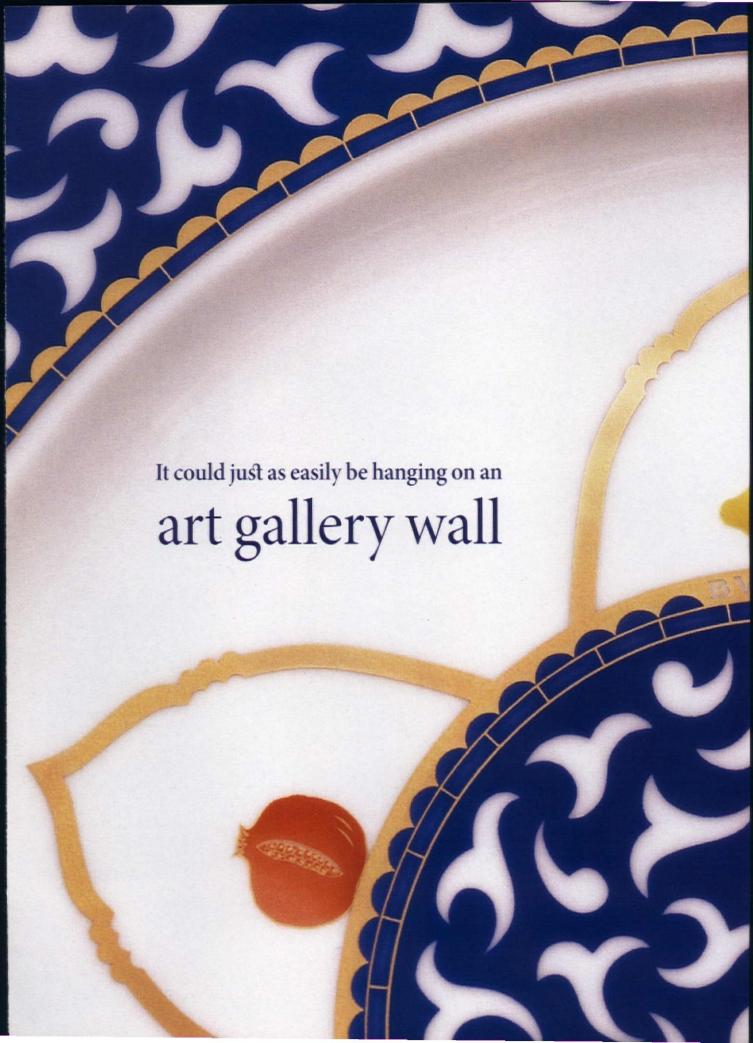
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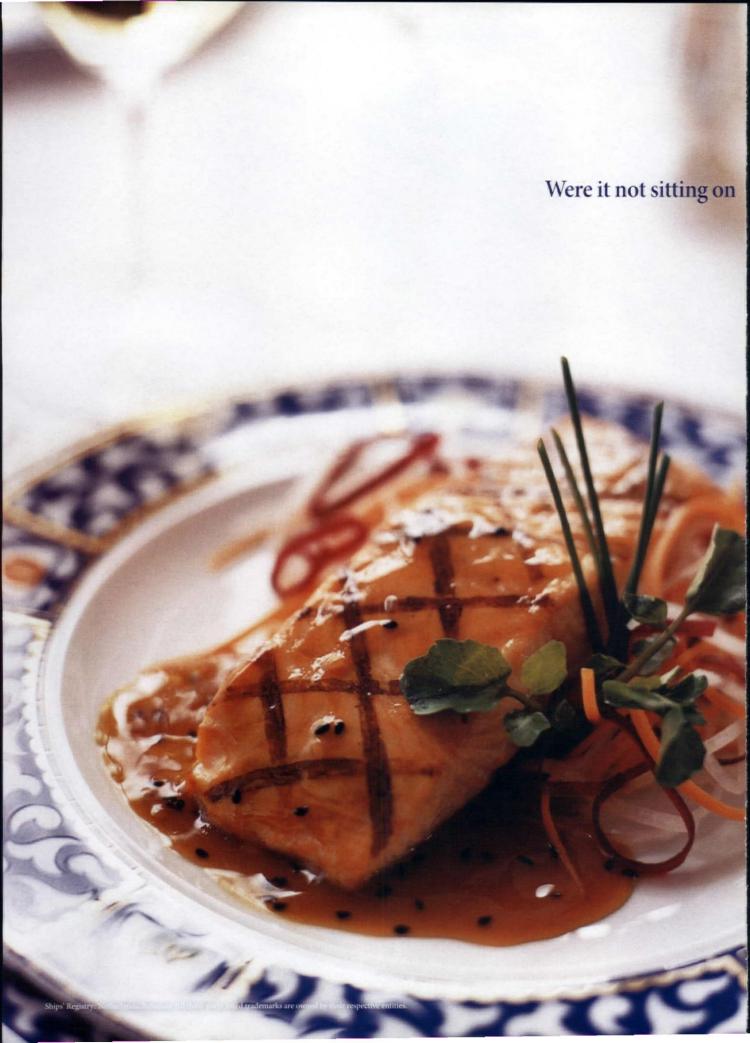
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in the garden



## Hedge Obsessed PERRY GUILLOT SHARES HIS PASSION FOR THE GARDEN'S GREEN WALLS by stephen or

For many people, hedges are merely a backdrop to flashier garden features such as flower-filled borders and garden statuary. But not for the keen-eyed landscape architect Perry Guillot, whose observations on the shape, form, and

purpose of these useful plantings should make you see them in a new light.

It's probably no accident that many of Guillot's design projects are located in one of the most hedged-in

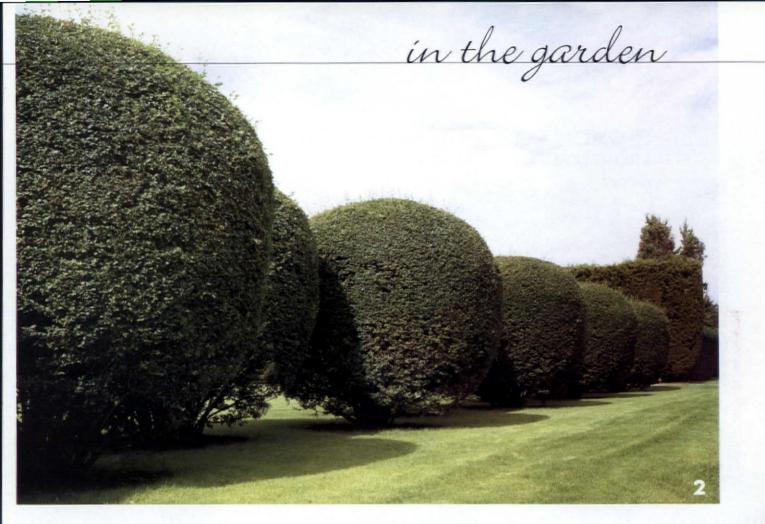


### Hedge Obsessed

communities in the nation, the Hamptons. Some might find the Long Island area's miles of tall privet hedges exclusionary and oppressive. But Guillot thinks the green walls should be celebrated as "a beauty in the whole" that unifies the towns and villages. He even halfseriously proposes a privet-only ordinance for visual continuity. Still, his hedge fixation is not without humor. Guillot's upcoming book, Privet Lives: An Imaginary Tale of Southampton's Iconic Shrub (PowerHouse, \$95), features his watercolors of allegorical hedges and a satiric social history of the community. In light of his credentials, we think a guided tour of Guillot's favorite Hamptons hedges (and the principles they represent) is in order.









1 THE OBSESSIVE To Guillot. the dramatic swoop and pristine trim of this hedge is a proud expression of this garden owner's careful hand. 2 THE **NONCONFORMIST** Set among a mile-long stretch of evenly trimmed privet, this staggered hedge of individual 15-foottall spheres is, in Guillot's words, "a playful and welcome change." 3 THE MIMIC The gabled architecture of this privet hedge, which Guillot designed, is an exercise in charming repetition. The shape of the hedged portal mimics the house's traditional architecture. Arborvitae cones and the large pyramidal linden tree in the front yard punctuate the quotation. 4 THE SPLIT PERSONALITY Guillot thinks fences (and hedges) make good neighbors. Here, the hedge seems to be the peacemaker between two property owners with very different styles. "I like that it has a dual nature between the totally wild and the utilitarian," Guillot says. >

# Hedge Obsessed Hedge Obsessed

### PLANT CHOICES SELECT THE BEST PLANTS TO ADD THE RIGHT SCALE AND STYLE TO YOUR GARDEN



### **◀ SMALL HEDGES**

Low hedges are most often used to subdivide the internal areas of a garden. These precisely clipped examples are at the Villa Farnese in Caprarola, Italy.

- Boxwood
- Dwarf conifers
- Daphne
- Herbs

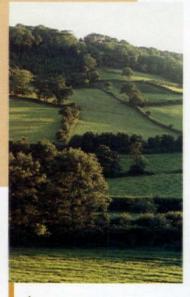


### < SHEARED HEDGES

Classic formal hedges are made of slower-growing plants. This yew doorway at Hidcote in England can stand up to

frequent clipping.

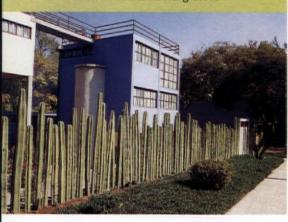
- Arborvitae
- Barberry
- Bay
- BayBeech
- Cotoneaster
- Euonymus
- Holly
- Juniper
- Privet
- Yew



### **V** UNCONVENTIONAL HEDGES

Plants other than shrubs can also be appropriate. This cactus fence is at the home of Diego Rivera in Mexico City.

- Annuals: castor beans, cleome, sunflowers
- · Perennials: baptisia, perovskia, peonies
- Cactus Ornamental grasses



### **A LOOSE HEDGES**

Unclipped plants take up more space than manicured hedges. They work well when they're made up of mixed species, as are these English hedgerows.

- Azalea
- Hydrangea
- Kerria japonica
- Mock orange
- Oleander
- Rose
- Rose of Sharon
- Viburnum

### HOW TO PLACE A HEDGE

There are plenty of questions you must ask when you're siting such a large and impenetrable garden element. What purpose will the hedge serve? Is a year-round sight-and-sound barrier necessary? How tall should the hedge ultimately be? How much maintenance is involved?

#### TRAFFIC DIRECTORS

"Hedges are bossy," Guillot says. "A path suggests a route, but a hedge, like a wall, is not easily breached." Guillot feels that a good hedge should not only frame views or establish the bones of a garden but also direct traffic in a simple, straightforward way. Formal elements such as ball finials or crenellations are more than just decorative devices; they can indicate main entrances and points of passage through the hedge.

#### SCREENS AND BARRIERS

Privet, which is deciduous, made sense when the Hamptons were primarily a summer community. But as year-round residents have discovered, a leafless hedge framework does not offer protection from sound or from nosy neighbors. Classic evergreens like yew and arborvitae better serve the all-season purpose, especially when they screen out the occasional air-conditioning unit or a neighbor's unsightly plastic play set. To avoid spacing problems in years to come, use stakes and string to visualize the mature shape of a planned hedge. As a general rule, most hedges are half as wide as they are tall.

#### MOOD SETTERS

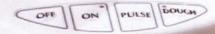
A tall, squared-off hedge gives property the feel of an old estate with much to hide and little to offer the casual onlooker. "A lower height of five feet tends to be more neighborly and suitable for a small-town setting," Guillot says. In a project in the village of Sag Harbor, he used a peer-over hedge in a large oval that deliberately blurred property lines while borrowing views from the historical buildings next door. The texture of the plant and the style in which it is clipped are also important. A shaggy specimen such as hemlock gives a more casual feeling than a tightly clipped boxwood.

### MAINTENANCE

It's best to start shearing formal hedges early to establish dense growth. As the hedges grow, you might need to prune them three times a year. One yearly clipping in spring or early summer should suffice once they have matured. Always angle the sides of the hedge so that sunlight will reach its base and keep the branches full.



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# One Gardener's Almanac

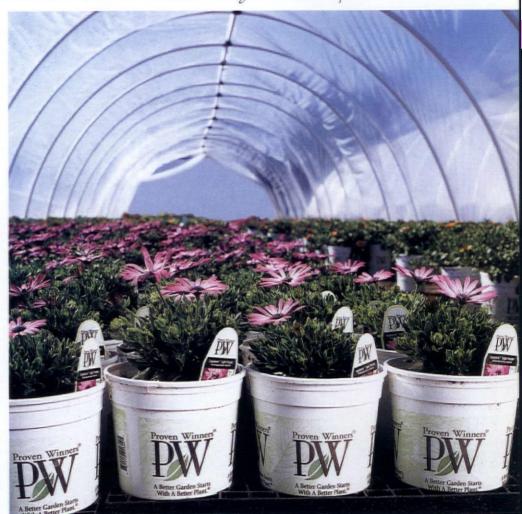
Performance Counts

THE FOUNDERS OF PROVEN WINNERS HAD A NOVEL IDEA: MARKET A LINE OF PLANTS THAT ARE SURE TO THRIVE IN YOUR GARDEN. THEIR SUCCESS HAS STARTED A REVOLUTION by tom christopher

t's New York, so no one, not even the waitress, gives us a second look, even though Josh Schneider is talking Latin. He's sitting at a table in the coffee shop, flipping through a pile of snapshots and reeling off botanical names at high speed. Agastache, evolvulus, helichrysum, arctotis, bracteantha, dianella, watsoniathese are the flowers that he found during a three-week blast through Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Germany, England, and Singapore. The cultivars are not ones that I recognize, but I will undoubtedly be familiar with them before long, for Schneider's trip was only the most recent leg of a constant hunt for superior annuals and perennials that his employer, Proven Winners, will put into virtually every local garden center.

And thus into our gardens—because Proven Winners, a cooperative venture started by three plant propagators just 12 years ago, has moved beyond supplying product to actively shaping our tastes. Last year, according to Schneider, Proven Winners sold 130 million transplants. These numbers are a reflection of the cooperative's success in identifying plants that will excite gardeners and in acquiring the sole right to propagate and distribute the plants. For many gardeners, the trademark PW

label has become a prerequisite for a purchase. The reason for this popularity, Schneider explains, is simple. Before the founding of Proven Winners, plant breeders focused on the needs of nurserymen: plants were bred for qualities such as shelf life (the ability to survive for weeks in plastic trays filled with soil-less potting mixes). How the plants performed after you and I took them home was largely ignored. Indeed, when Proven Winners proposed to market a line of plants selected specifically for superior performance in the garden, the nursery industry derided the idea. Yet the plants that Proven Winners began introducing, such as bacopa, scaevola,



bidens, and brachycome, did indeed prove out. They became, almost overnight, garden standbys.

Schneider serves as national spokesperson for Proven Winners, providing the company's public face at flower shows and industry events, hosting television programs, and delivering lectures to gardeners' groups. But he still finds time to, as he calls it, "keep in touch with my inner plant nerd." As director of marketing and product development for one of Proven Winners' founding members, EuroAmerican Propagators, Schneider hunts down new plants for the Proven Winners line.

Though not a hybridizer himself, Schneider shares the breeders' addiction to plant novelties. He

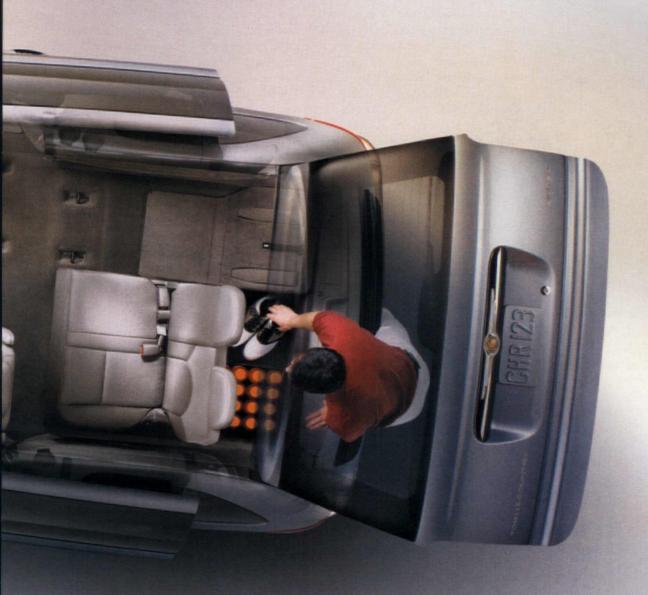
The available range of hardworking, long blooming annuals like the African daisy (Osteospermum), above, has expanded rapidly in recent decades due to Proven Winners.

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ng and storage—amazingly, yes.

### AV HASVELL

# One Gardener's Almanac

understands the special relationship that breeders develop with their creations. "Selling the rights to a plant," he explains, "is, for these breeders, like letting you adopt their baby." Such transactions require tact, especially since the child that a breeder thinks is a star often isn't. "Breeders will

show you a plant that they think is beautiful, and you'll know it just isn't salable," Schneider explains. But you have to be gentle, he adds, not only because you don't want to hurt a friend, but also because at the other end of the greenhouse there may be something amazing that the breeder doesn't appreciate.

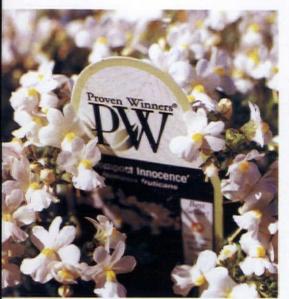
Or you may find yourself in the position of explaining that a plant is not quite ready for the market. Schneider tells the story of a breeder of agastaches in the United Kingdom. After admiring what the breeder had accomplished, Schneider told him that, to be marketable, his

plants needed to be shorter, no more than a foot and a half tall, that half or more of that should be flowers, that the foliage had to be fragrant, and that the plants needed to be self-cleaning (that is, shed their blossoms spontaneously as they start to fade). Quite a list, yet when Schneider returned nine months later, it was all in place. The alterations didn't take long, he explains, because the fundamental work had already been done.

His own inexperience in breeding, Schneider insists, is his greatest contribution to the process. He isn't, he says, "constrained by what is impossible, because I simply don't know any better." There was, for example, a certain evening in South Africa. That nation, the world's richest center of botanical diversity, draws plant breeders like a picnic draws ants, and Schneider had found himself dining with an international party. Upon emerging from the restaurant, he recognized a weed springing up from a crack in the sidewalk as some species of nemesia. What would happen, he wondered, if you crossed it with the cultivated nemesias? Impossible, said a Japanese companion, one of the world's most eminent plant breeders, who explained that the plants were genetically incompatible. A German colleague took the dare. He obtained the seed, which he carried to a high-tech floral fertility clinic. A complex series of matings with a variety of species ensued; after a number of generations, the two bloodlines were joined and a new race of nemesias was born. This new specimen, incidentally, proved much more tolerant of heat and cold than previous types of garden nemesias, and hence better adapted to most American climates. Proven Winners introduced six of these new 'Sunsatia' nemesias in 2003: 'Pineapple,' 'Banana,' 'Cranberry,' 'Peach,' 'Coconut,' and 'Lemon.'

After our meeting, I surf through the Proven Winners online catalog (provenwinners.com/catalog) to inspect Schneider's new nemesias. These and the parade of other plants I find prompt plans for bulk purchases, but also leave me worried that a horticultural Microsoftening is in the works. Are we facing a future in which one company will dictate what flowers we can buy?

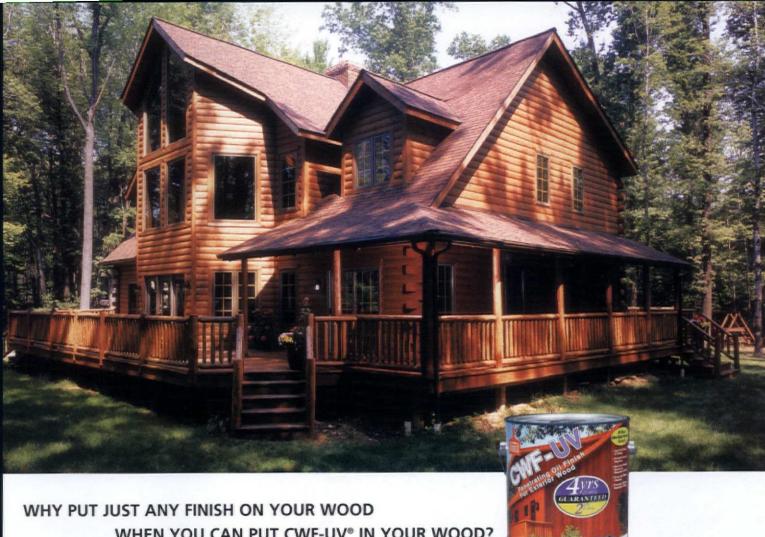
I call a nurseryman friend, and he tells me that Proven Winners is a leader, not a monolith. Competing suppliers have reacted to the company's success by establishing their own lines of trademarked, garden-friendly flowers. Our inner plant nerds, apparently, are still sitting pretty.



Nemesia, above, is another worthy plant from South Africa that has been chosen for intensive breeding to make it adaptable to a wider variety of growing conditions.

### Five hot items from Proven Winners

- NEMESIAS 'SUNSATIA' The German breeder's impossible triumph described above. Grow them in a hanging basket or container, in full sun to partial shade. Cultivars include 'Banana,' 'Coconut,' 'Cranberry,' 'Lemon,' 'Peach,' and 'Pineapple.'
- 'INTENSIA' PHLOX From Japan. Annual in cooler climates; perennial in zones 9 to 11. Full sun to partial shade. Three colors: 'Lavender Glow,' 'Lilac Rose,' and 'Neon Pink.' These are phlox without the temperamental phlox personality.
- "FLYING COLORS TRAILING RED' DIASCIA
  A South African relative of the snapdragon that
  bears billows of delicate flowers in full sun
  or shade. Cold and heat tolerant. Ideal for the
  challenging conditions of a window box.
- SUPERTUNIA 'LEMON PLUME' Though not a fan of petunias, I can't resist this one. Thrives in full sun with no need for deadheading. Tuck it in around shrubs or flowers in a mixed bed, or mix with grasses in a large container.
- ZONAL PELARGONIUM 'SALMON' From the 'Fireworks' collection. A geranium revolution with star-shaped flowers of salmon petals veined with a darker pink, and foliage like maple leaves; full or partial sun.



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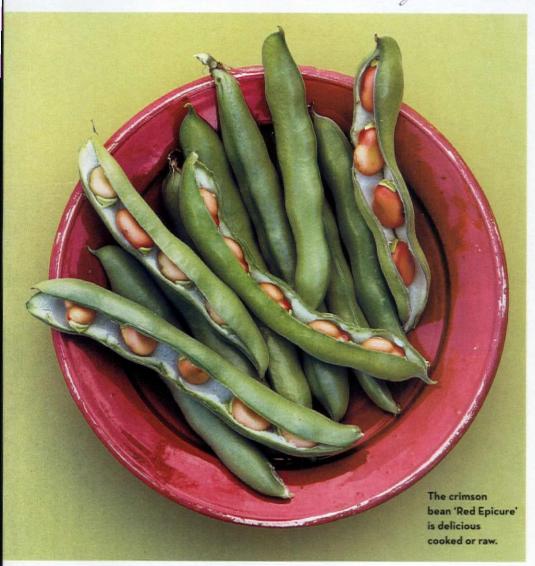
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## in the garden Grow Cook Eat

FAVA BEANS ARE BIG AND STARCHY BY THE TIME THEY REACH MARKET, BUT IF YOU RAISE THEM YOURSELF AND PICK THEM YOUNG, THEY'RE DELECTABLE by sarah raven



hen you buy fava beans, they're always too big, aren't they? Great starchy blobs without any flavor and with horrible leathery skins. Fava beans should be no bigger than my thumbnail—tasty, tender, and soft. (Don't trust a man to get it right: his thumbnails are too big.) I've never seen fava beans this small for sale, so to eat them at their most delicious, you have to grow your own. They can be challenging to grow, especially in areas with hot summers, but are well worth the trouble.

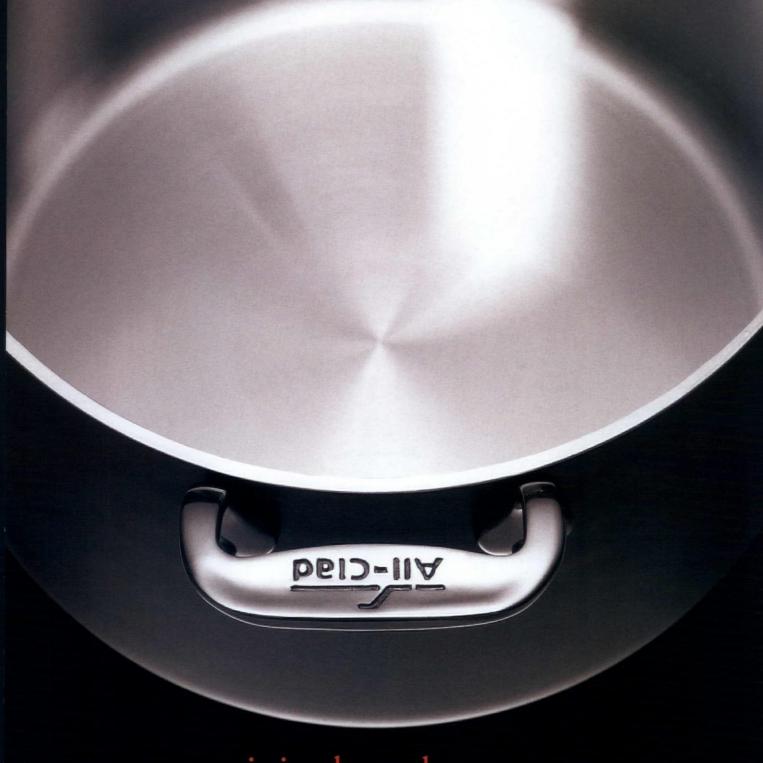
Favas, or broad beans, are good quickly boiled, just as they are, and they're fantastic with bacon or pancetta. There's hardly a better pasta sauce than fava beans stirred up with garlic, cream, and summer savory, the thymelike annual herb, with crunchy bacon chucked over just before you eat. (For recipes, see page 169.) But my favorite is eating little fava beans raw, mixed up with just-picked peas and crumbled, salty feta or slithers of pecorino.

You may not know that the miniature bean pod is delicious too. Pick it when it's only a couple of inches long and not fatter than your ring finger (no men), and eat it straight off the plant, whole, like a snow pea. The pods at this stage are deliciously



### SECRETS TO SUCCESS

- 1 Fava beans are cold-weather plants that thrive in a cool, moist climate, and best yields come from early spring and autumn sowings. Try to sow as soon as the ground is workable.
- 2 Successional sowing is key, and best made when the preceding crop reaches 2 inches. But if you sow after the warm weather sets in, the flowers seem unable to set pods.
- 3 Sow straight into the ground. Plant seeds 2 inches deep, allowing 8 to 10 inches in both directions between each seed, in staggered double rows. For quick, early results, sow your seeds into long thin pots. These encourage the rapid formation of large plants.
- 4 Stake the plants when they are about 2 feet tall. Use twine and canes, about 30 inches high, or a nest of hazel or silver birch pea-sticks around the whole clump.
- 5 Watering is important, particularly with beans sowed in late spring. Beans as a group are very susceptible to drought. Overwintered sowings develop a deep taproot that can extract the water needed, but later plantings and those on a light soil need to be watered. In dry weather, water around the base of the plants during flowering and while pods are forming. A good soak once a week, rather than a daily dribble, produces greater yields.



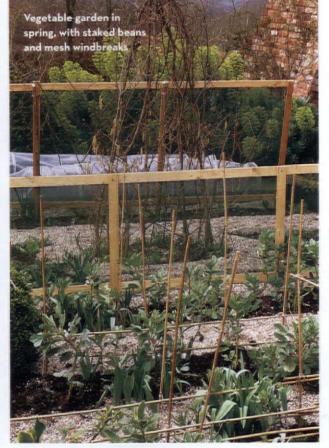
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in the garden



crunchy and packed with that curiously meaty broad bean flavor. And that's not all. Try the bean plant tips—the inch at the very top of the plant—and the tips of the plant's side branches. To prevent an infestation by the black bean aphid, you should pinch out these tips anyway. It's best to do so when the first pod forms at the base of the plant; but rather than dumping the tips on the compost heap, why not eat them? Try them wilted over pasta or a tasty spring risotto, and you'll discover a whole new vegetable experience.

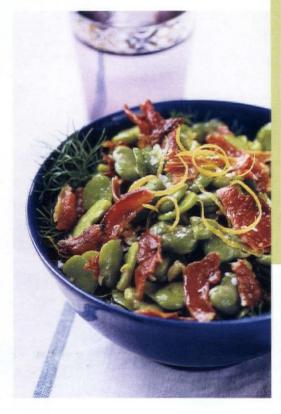
o, which are the varieties suited to sowing now, in mid-spring? The best fava bean for early sowing in a cold climate is 'Aquadulce Claudia,' with its fantastic flavor and pods full of just the right-sized bean. These pods are often nearly a foot from stem to tip, but the size of the pod is no guide to the size of bean. The 'Aquadulce' beans are surprisingly small and wonderfully tender. There are usually eight or nine nail-sized lovelies, rather than five or six monsters.

In a windy spot, I also sow 'The Sutton,' which is small-growing and compact. When I lived in London, I grew it in huge pots outside the kitchen door. In the country, I sow

this tough and hardy variety in the ground in a west-facing, exposed bed where little else will thrive. There's another midsized variety, 'Stereo,' that you should also try. It's for sowing in April and May, and produces the most succulent and completely unbitter fava beans I've ever eaten. Imagine something between a fresh pea and a broad bean. Unmissable!

For scattering over the top of a bowl of normal green broad beans, I grow 'Red Epicure.' The pods are green, but the beans are crimson. They get starchy quickly, so pick them early. Cooked or raw, they're delicious and look great. For the same effect in the garden, I love the 'Crimson-Flowered' fava bean. It has the perfect color contrast of deep rich crimson flowers and silvery green leaves in one plant. Mix it with Allium 'Purple Sensation,' planted deep, so you don't dig up the bulb from one year to the next,

and you've got a beautiful and productive combination. My husband says if he were a cow, he couldn't think of anywhere he would rather graze.





### HARVESTING TIPS

1 Pick fava beans young, when the beans start to show in the pods. Open up a pod and check the scar (where the seed is joined): for the beans to be at their best, the scar should be white or green, not black. 2 Pull the pod downward, twisting at the same time. If it doesn't come off easily, use scissors or a knife to avoid damaging the stem or uprooting the plant. 3 Pick often, but don't pick until just before you want to eat. That way, you'll get the tastiest beans. Regular picking (ideally, two or three times a week) will promote the formation of more pods. 4 Birds-jays and crows in particular-love fava beans

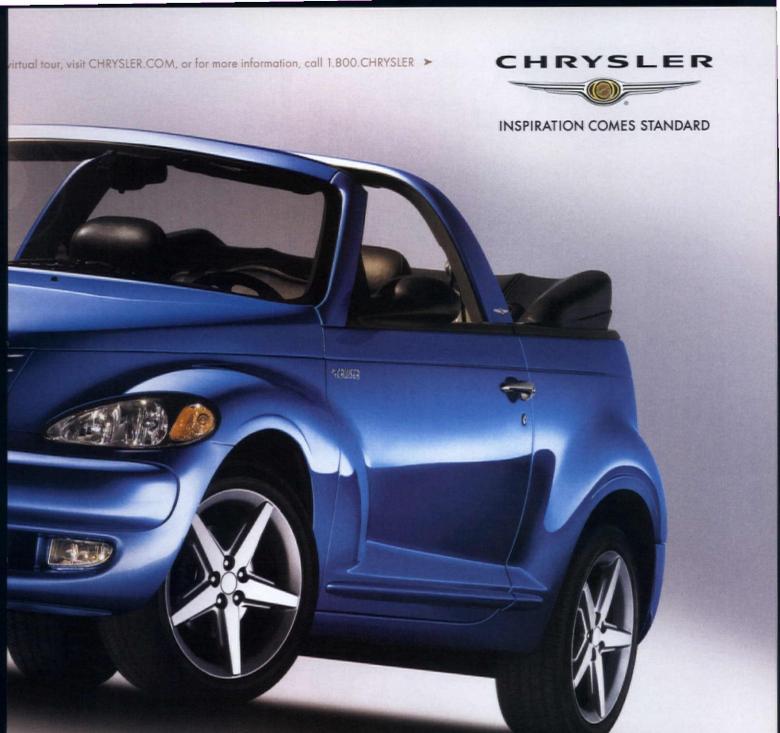
and will strip pods bare before you harvest. If this

is a problem, net your plants.

A salad of shelled 'Aquadulce Claudia' fava beans, drycured bacon, and extra-virgin olive oil, left. For recipes, see page 169.



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With a one-button soft-top and an available 220-hp turbo GT engine, vehicle has become an even more unique fun start at under 20K? Absolutely.

# in the garden Digging In

### GROUND COVER ADDS COMPLEXITY by cheryl merser

ome years ago, I drove by a tall, perfectly clipped privet hedge with another hedge underneath: dozens of exuberant nasturtiums, some almost knee-high, blooming in a pale cream color like that of the privet in bloom. The composition seemed perfect: the asymmetry of the tumbling nasturtiums against the manicured hedge. Later, I looked at my own privet hedge, neatly mulched but not accessorized, let's call it, the way the other one had been.

That year, I underplanted my privet with an early blooming cotoneaster, which was less labor intensive than planting hundreds of nasturtium seeds every year, and still pleasing. The tiny white blossoms appear well before the privet blooms; the plant's habit is mounded, and the red berries are a grace note in winter. Best of all, the mulched earth, however neat, had been covered over by something pretty, and the hedge had a dimension of complexity to it.

Nature abhors vacuums - and ground covers fill them.

LAYERS AND LEVELS Ground covers can seem like the also-rans of the garden, planted last to fill up, fill in, or cover up. But they really do much more. They frame and showcase other plants, add texture and density, and enhance the effect of color by blending or contrasting. They can also be used as transitional plants between one area of a garden and another (the herblike perovskia leading the way from a bed of flowers to a bed of herbs), to edge walkways, and in between steps and bricks and stones.

Plants traditionally thought of as ground covers-among them, lamium, aegopodium, low-growing lady's mantle (Alchemilla alpina or A. conjuncta), and prostrate veronica-serve the purpose, but any plant or shrub that can thrive under the one above it can be considered ground cover. For example, I saw another privet hedge, leafless in early spring, with a blanket of crocuses set as ground cover in rows underneath it. To me, the scale was all wrong; the hedge was massive, and the crocuses just skimmed the ground. My hedge, on the other hand, is shorter, and the cotoneasters have a weight that seems in balance with the privet.

Petasites, with its huge leaves reminiscent of elephant ears, can cover the ground under a huge tree, for example. At the other extreme, creeping barren strawberry (Fragaria 'Pink Panda'), with its delicate, filigreed leaves, can edge an ornamental pot or a raised bed. In other words, ground covers are meant not only to obscure but also to enhance.

### ■ SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

 Heavily trafficked areas invariably mean heavily trafficked plants. If you're edging a pathway, plant something that grows up a bit (Geranium macrorrhizum or ajuga, for instance), to discourage using the plants as stepping-stones, rather than a plant (like creeping thyme) that grows flush with the ground.

 If an area near a driveway or sidewalk is likely to be salted or sanded in winter, consider adding some low-growing annuals-they won't return anyway.

 Dogs tend to create their own pathways through a garden, over time trampling ground cover plants. I'd defer to the dogs on this one. And cats will roll in catmint.

> If a garden bed ends exactly where the lawn begins, any delicate ground cover plants will inevitably (and

> > repeatedly) be mowed down. Make a barrier, such as an edging of stones, to deter mowers.

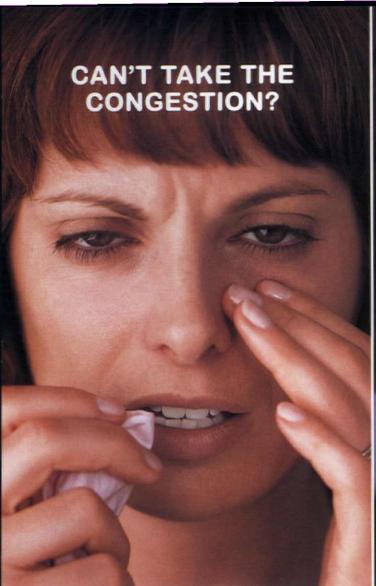
· Remember that some trees draw water away from the surface to their root systems, so it's important to make sure your ground covers under trees are given ample shallow waterings.

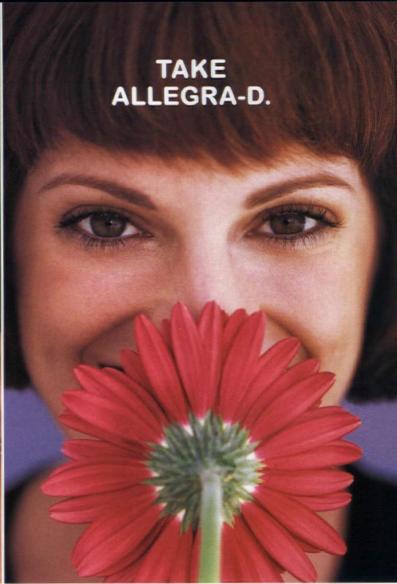
· When planning for ground covers, consider the ultimate growth of the plant above. If you're creating a bed around a newly planted shrub, for instance, bring out the bed

a little, to allow both the shrub and the ground cover to grow and spread out.

 You want the ground cover to cover and adorn the ground, but not necessarily take over the plants around it. An invasive plant like aegopodium might seem like a good idea at the time you plant it, but give it an inch and it might take a mile. >

Vinca major 'Variegata' has purplish flowers from spring to fall.





Side effects with Allegra-D were similar to Allegra alone and may include headache, insomnia, and nausea. Due to the decongestant (pseudoephedrine) component in Allegra-D, this product must not be used if you: are taking an MAO inhibitor (a medication for depression) or have stopped taking an MAO inhibitor within 14 days; retain urine; have narrow-angle glaucoma; have severe high blood pressure or severe heart disease. You should also tell your doctor if you have high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, glaucoma, thyroid disease, impaired kidney function, or symptoms of an enlarged prostate such as difficulty urinating. Allegra-D is for people 12 and older.

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Brief Summary of

mation as of January 2003

### ALLEGRA-D® fexofenadine HCl 60 mg and pseudoephedrine HCl 120 mg) Extended-Release Tablets

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ALLEGRA-D is indicated for the relief of symptoms associated with seasonal allergic rhinitis in adults and children 12 years of age and older. Symptoms treated effectively include sneezing, rhinorrhea, itchy nose/palate/ and/or throat, itchy/watery/red eyes, and

ALLEGRA-D should be administered when both the antihistaminic properties of fexofenadine hydrogestant properties of pseudoephedrine hydrochloride are desired (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY).

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

ALLEGRA-D is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to any of its ingredients

Due to its pseudoephedrine component, ALLEGRA-D is contraindicated in patients with narrow-angle glaucoma or urinary retention, and in patients receiving monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor therapy or within fourteen (14) days of stopping such treatment (see Drug Interactions section). It is also contraindicated in patients with severe hypertension, or severe coronary artery disease, and in those who have shown hypersensitivity or idiosyncrasy to its components, to adrenergic agents, or to other drugs of similar chemical structures. Manifestations of patient idiosyncrasy to adrenergic agents include: insomnia, dizziness, weakness, tremor, or arrhythmias.

Sympathomimetic amines should be used judiciously and sparingly in patients with hypertension, diabetes mellitus, ischemic heart disease, increased intraocular pressure, hyperthyroidism, renal impairment, or prostatic hypertrophy (see CONTRAINDICA TIONS). Sympathomimetic amines may produce central nervous system stimulation with convulsions or cardiovascular collapse with accompanying hypotension.

### PRECAUTIONS

### General

Due to its pseudoephedrine component, ALLEGRA-D should be used with caution in patients with hypertension, diabetes mellitus, ischemic heart disease, increased intraocular pressure, hyperthyroidism, renal impairment, or prostatic hypertrophy (see WARNINGS and CONTRAINDICATIONS). Patients with decreased renal function should be given a lower initial dose (one tablet per day) because they have reduced elimination of fexofenadine and pseudoephedrine [See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Information for Patients
Patients Taking ALLEGRA-D tablets should receive the following information: ALLEGRA-D tablets are prescribed for the relief of symptoms of seasonal allergic rhinits. Patients should be instructed to take ALLEGRA-D tablets only as prescribed. **Do not exceed** symptoms or seasonal aircing. Immin. Faitents should be destructed to take ALEGAR-U tablets only as prescribed. **Do not execute**the recommended dose. If nervousness, dizziness, or sleeplessness occur, discontinue use and consult the doctor. Patients should also be advised against the concurrent use of ALLEGAR-D tablets with over-the-counter antihistamines and decongestants. The product should not be used by patients who are hypersensitive to it or to any of its ingredients. Due to its pseudoephedrine component, this product should not be used by patients with narrow-angle glaucoma, urinary retention, or by patients receiving a monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor or within 14 days of stopping use of MAO inhibitor. It also should not be used by patients with severe hypertension or severe coronary artery disease.

Patients should be told that this product should be used in pregnancy or lactation only if the potential benefit justifies the poten-

tial risk to the fetus or nursing infant. Patients should be cautioned not to break or chew the tablet. Patients to swallow the tablet whole. Patients should be instructed not to take the tablet with food. Patients should also be instructed to store the medication in a tightly closed container in a cool, dry place, away from children.

### **Drug Interactions**

hydrochloride and pseudoephedrine hydrochloride do not influence the pharmacokinetics of each other when

Fexofenadine has been shown to exhibit minimal (ca. 5%) metabolism. However, co-administration of fexofenadine with ketoconazole and erythromycin led to increased plasma levels of fexofenadine. Fexofenadine had no effect on the pharmacokinetics of erythromycin and ketoconazole. In two separate studies, fexofenadine HCl 120 mg BID (twice the recommended dose) was co-administered with erythromycin 500 mg every 8 hours or ketoconazole 400 mg once daily under steady-state conditions to normal, health volunteers (m=24, each study), so differences in adverse events or QT, interval were observed when subjects were administered fexification. He alone or in combination with erythromycin or ketoconazole. The findings of these studies are summarized in the following table:

Effects on Steady-State Fexofenadine Pharmacokinetics After 7 Days of Co-Administration with Fexofenadine Hydrochloride 120 mg Every 12 Hours (twice recommended dose) in Normal Volunteers (n=24)				
Concomitant Drug	(Peak plasma concentration)	AUC <sub>ss</sub> (0-12h) (Extent of systemic exposure)		
Erythromycin (500 mg every 8 hrs)	+82%	+109%		
Ketoconazole (400 mg once daily)	+135%	+164%		

The changes in plasma levels were within the range of plasma levels achieved in adequate and well-controlled clinical trials. The mechanism of these interactions has been evaluated in in vitro, in situ and in vivo animal models. These studies indicate that ketoconazole or erythromycin co-administration enhances fexolenadine gastrointestinal absorption. In vivo animal studies also suggest that in addition to enhancing absorption, ketoconazole decreases fexolenadine gastrointestinal secretion, while erythromycin may also decrease biliary excretion.

ALLEGRA-D tablets (pseudoephedrine component) are contraindicated in patients taking monoamine oxidase inhibitors and for 14 days after stopping use of an MAO inhibitor. Concomitant use with antihyperfensive drugs which interfere with sympathetic activity (eg. methyldopa, mecamylamine, and reserpine) may reduce their antihypertensive effects. Increased ectopic pacemaker activity can occur when pseudoephedrine is used concomitantly with digitalis.

Care should be taken in the administration of ALLEGRA-D concomitantly with other symp

ffects on the cardiovascular system may be harmful to the patient (see WARNINGS)

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
There are no animal or in vitro studies on the combination product fexoride to evaluate Carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, or impairment of fertility. nation product fexofenadine hydrochloride and pseudoephedrine hydrochlo-

The carcinogenic potential and reproductive toxicity of fexofenadine hydrochloride were assessed using terfenadine studies adequate rexifenadine exposure jarea-under-the plasma concentration versus time curve [AUC]. No evidence of carcinogenicity was observed when mice and rats were given daily oral doses up to 150 mg/kg of terlenadine for 18 and 24 months, respectively. In both species, 150 mg/kg of terfenadine produced AUC values of fexofenadine that were approximately 3 times the human AUC at the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults.

Two-year feeding studies in rats and mice conducted under the auspices of the National Toxicology Program (NTP) dem

ed no evidence of carcinogenic potential with ephedrine sulfate, a structurally related drug with pharmacological properties similar to pseudoephedrine, at doses up to 10 and 27 mg/kg, respectively (approximately 1/3 and 1/2, respectively, the maximum recommended daily oral dose of pseudoephedrine hydrochloride in adults on a mg/m² basis).

In in vitro (Bacterial Reverse Mutation, CHO/HGPRT Forward Mutation, and Rat Lymphocyte Chromosomal Aberration assays) and in vivo (Mouse Bone Marrow Micronucleus assay) tests, teorenadine hydrochloride revealed no evidence of mulagenicity.

Reproduction and fertility studies with terfenadine in rats produced no effect on male or female fertility at oral doses up to

300 mg/kg/day. However, reduced implants and post implantation losses were reported at 300 mg/kg. A reduction in implants was also observed at an oral dose of 150 mg/kg/day. Oral doses of 150 and 300 mg/kg of terfenadine produced AUC values of fevole-nadine that were approximately 3 and 4 times, respectively, the human AUC at the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults.

Pregnancy
Teratogenic Effects: Category C. Terfenadine alone was not teratogenic in rats and rabbits at oral doses up to 300 mg/kg; 300 mg/kg of terfenadine produced fexofenadine AUC values that were approximately 4 and 30 times, respectively, the human

abulinging of terrenatine produced resolventation and causes that were approximately 4 and 30 times, respectively, the human AUC at the maximum recommended daily or all does in adults. The combination of terfenadine and pseudoephedrine hydrochloride in a ratio of 1:2 by weight was studied in rats and rabbits. In rats, an oral combination dose of 150300 mg/kg produced reduced fetal weight and delayed ossification with a finding of wavy ribs. The dose of 150 mg/kg of terfenadine in rats produced an AUC value of fexofenadine that was approximately 3 times the human AUC at the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults. The dose of 300 mg/kg of pseudoephedrine hydrochloride in rats was approximately 10 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults on a mg/m² basis. In rabbits, an oral combination dose of 100/200 mg/kg produced decreased fetal weight. By extrapolation, the AUC of fexofenadine for 100 mg/kg orally of terfenadine was approximately 10 times the human AUC at the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults. The dose of 200 mg/kg of pseudoephedrine hydrochloride was approximately 15 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults on a mg/m2 basis.

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. ALLEGRA-D should be used during pregnancy only if the s the potential risk to the letus.

Nonteratogenic Effects. Dose-related decreases in pup weight gain and survival were observed in rats exposed to an oral dose of 150 mg/kg of terfenadine; this dose produced an AUC of fexofenadine that was approximately 3 times the human AUC at the

nded daily oral dose in adults

### **Nursing Mothers**

is not known if fexofenadine is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be those in plasma. The total amount of drug in milk as judged by AUC is 2 to 3 times greater than the plasma AUC. The fraction of a pseudoephedrine dose excreted in milk is estimated to be 0.4% to 0.7%. A decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother. Caution should be exercised when ALLEGRA-D is administered to nursing women

### Pediatric Use

ness of ALLEGRA-D in pediatric patients under the age of 12 years have not been established

### Geriatric Use

Clinical studies of ALLEGRA-D did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 and older to determine whether they respond differently from younger patients. Other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients, although the elderly are more likely to have adverse reactions to sympathornimetic amines. In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy

The pseudoephedrine component of ALLEGAP to is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reac-tions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection, and it may be useful to monitor renal function.

### ALLEGRA-D

n one clinical trial (n=651) in which 215 patients with seasonal allergic rhinitis received the 60 mg [exolenadine hydrochloride/ 120 mg pseudoephedrine hydrochloride combination tablet twice daily for up to 2 weeks, adverse events were similar to those reported either in patients receiving fexofenadine hydrochloride 60 mg alone (n=218 patients) or in patients receiving pseu-

doephedrine hydrochloride 120 mg alone (n=218). A placebo group was not included in this study.

The percent of patients who withdrew prematurely because of adverse events was 3.7% for the lexofenadine hydrochloride/pseudoephedrine hydrochloride combination group, 0.5% for the fexofenadine hydrochloride group, and 4.1% for the pseudoephedrine hydrochloride group. All adverse events that were reported by greater than 1% of patients who received the recommended daily

Adverse Experiences Reported in One Active-Controlled Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis Clinical Trial at Rates of Greater than 1%				
Adverse Experience	60 mg Fexofenadine Hydrochloride/120 mg Pseudoephedrine Hydrochloride Combination Tablet Twice Daily (n=215)	Fexofenadine Hydrochloride 60 mg Twice Daily (n=218)	Pseudoephedrine Hydrochloride 120 mg Twice Daily (n=218)	
Headache	13.0%	11.5%	17.4%	
Insomnia	12.6%	3.2%	13.3%	
Nausea	7.4%	0.5%	5.0%	
Dry Mouth	2.8%	0.5%	5,5%	
Dyspepsia	2.8%	0.5%	0.9%	
Throat Irritation	2.3%	1,8%	0.5%	
Dizziness	1.9%	0.0%	3.2%	
Agitation	1.9%	0.0%	1.4%	
Back Pain	1.9%	0.5%	0.5%	
Palpitation	1.9%	0.0%	0.9%	
Nervousness	1.4%	0.5%	1.8%	
Anxiety	1,4%	0.0%	1.4%	
Upper Respiratory Infection	1.4%	0.9%	0.9%	
Abdominal Pain	1.4%	0.5%	0.5%	

Many of the adverse events occurring in the fexofenadine hydrochloride/pseudoephedrine hydrochloride combination group were adverse events also reported predominately in the pseudoephedrine hydrochloride group, such as insomnia, headache nausea, dry mouth, dizziness, agitation, nervousness, anxiety, and palpitation

In placebo-controlled clinical trials, which included 2461 patients receiving fexofenadine hydrochloride at doses of 20 mg to 240 mg twice daily, adverse events were similar in Texofenadine hydrochloride and placebo-treated patients. The incidence of adverse events, including drowsiness, was not dose related and was similar across subgroups defined by age, gender, and race. The percent of patients who withdrew prematurely because of adverse events was 2.2% with fexofenadine hydrochloride vs 3.3%

ported during controlled clinical trials involving seasonal allergic rhinitis and chronic idiopathic urticaria patients with incidences less than 1% and similar to placebo and have been rarely reported during postmarketing surveillance include: insomnia, nervousness, and sleep disorders or paroniria. In rare cases, rash, urticaria, pruritus and hypersensitivity reac-tions with manifestations such as angioedema, chest tightness, dyspnea, flushing and systemic anaphylaxis have been reported.

### Pseudoephedrine Hydrochloride

Pseudoephedrine hydrochloride may cause mild CNS stimulation in hypers ness, dizziness, weakness, or insomnia may occur. Headache, drowsiness, tachycardia, palpitation, pressor activity, and cardiac arrhythmias have been reported. Sympathomimetic drugs have also been associated with other untoward effects such as lear, anxiety, tenseness, tremor, hallucinations, seizures, pallor, respiratory difficulty, dysuria, and cardiovascular collapse.

have been reported. For the pseudoephedrine hydrochloride component of ALLEGRA-D, information on acute overdose is limit-ed to the marketing history of pseudoephedrine hydrochloride. Single doses of fevolenadine hydrochloride up to 800 mg (6 normal volunteers at this dose level), and doses up to 690 mg twice daily for one month [3 normal volunteers at this dose level), were administered without the development of clinically significant adverse events. In large doses, sympathomimetics may give rise to giddiness, headache, nausea, vomiting, sweating, thirst, tachycardia, precordial

pain, palpitations, difficulty in micturition, muscular weakness and tenseness, anxiety, restlessness, and insomnia. Many patients can present a toxic psychosis with delusions and hallucinations. Some may develop cardiac arrhythmias, circulatory collapse, convulsions, coma, and respiratory failure.

In the event of overdose, consider standard measures to remove any unabsorbed drug. Symptomatic and supportive treatment is recommended. Hemodialysis did not effectively remove fexofenadine from blood (up to 1.7% removed) following terfenadine

The effect of hemodialysis on the removal of pseudoephedrine is unkn

No deaths occurred in mature mice and rats at oral doses of lexofenadine hydrochloride up to 5000 mg/kg (approximately 170 and 340 times, respectively, the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults on a mg/m²-basis.) The median oral lethal dose in newborn rats was 438 mg/kg (approximately 30 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults on a mg/m² basis.) basis). In dogs, no evidence of loxicity was observed at oral doses up to 2000 mg/kg (approximately 450 times the maximum rec-ommended human daily oral dose in adults on a mg/m² basis). The oral median lethal dose of pseudoephedrine hydrochloride in rats was 1674 mg/kg (approximately 55 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults on a mg/m² basis).

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

ommended dose of ALLEGRA-D is one tablet twice daily for adults and children 12 years of age and older. It is recommended that the administration of ALLEGRA-D with food should be avoided. A dose of one tablet once daily is the starting dose in patients with decreased renal function. (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY and PRECAUTIONS.)

Please see product circular for full prescribing information

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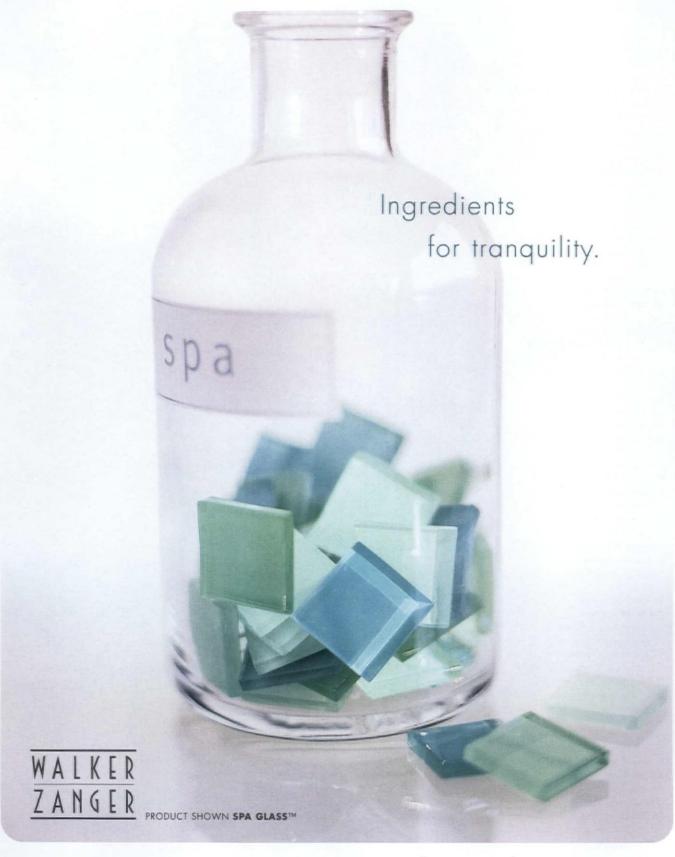
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GROUND COVERS: BEYOND THE BORING





# THIS MONTH ON THE DESIGN BEAT

>> THE X FACTOR Charlotte Perriand and Ray Eames aside, furniture design has always been more fraternity than sorority. So brava to Wonder Women, a new furniture collection by design heroines including Eva Zeisel, Matali Crasset, and Ana Mir, creator of the Flip Flap chaise, left. The pieces, manufactured by New York-based Dune, debut this month at the International Contemporary Furniture Fair in Manhattan. >> TROJAN HOUSE

Talk about epic proportions: for the movie Troy, it took almost 350 workers six months to build King Priam's palace, right, on the island of Malta, complete with 30-foot-high terraced gardens lushly planted with asparagus ferns, agapanthus, and dozens of cypress and olive trees. The

film stars Brad Pitt as Achilles and Peter O'Toole as King Priam. >>> DON'T MISS "First American Art," an exhibit of Native American artwork, such as the nineteenth-century Tsimshian maskette, left,

as the nineteenth-century Tsimshian maskette, left,
from Charles and Valerie Diker's unique collection, at the National Museum of the
American Indian in New York; the Cornerstone Festival of Gardens in Sonoma, CA,
opening this spring, with concept gardens by top U.S. landscape designers, including Martha

Schwartz, Topher Delaney, and Andy Cao. >> BOOK SMART Will skeptical Seattle residents be won over by Pritzker-winning architect Rem Koolhaas's postmodern design for their public library, below left, when it opens this month? The library is experiencing severe budget cuts, but architecture fans are thrilling to the \$165 million glass-sheathed design, with its four-story books spiral and so-called living room with plush chairs for reading and



持持二個問題

lounging. >> CARNATION COOL When Anna Jarvis created Mother's Day in 1908, the schoolteacher tried to push the carnation (her own mother's favorite) as the holiday's official bloom. This species of dianthus, right, now accounts for just 8 percent of cut flowers sold on Mother's Day, but expect a carnation comeback.

Trendsetters such as Sarah Jessica Parker,

Christian Louboutin, and Carolyne Roehm are all fans of the humble bloom. —INGRID ABRAMOVITCH

# A MODERN MAVERICK

WITH HIS PASSION TO UPLIFT THE RURAL POOR, SAMUEL MOCKBEE DEDICATED HIS QUIRKY GENIUS TO A NEW ARCHITECTURE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE by martin filler

ragic" is not a word to be bandied about lightly, but there is no other adjective to describe the casualty that the world of architecture suffered when Samuel Mockbee died of leukemia at the end of 2001. Mockbee had just turned 57, and there is no telling what he might have created had he lived longer, given the near miraculous quality of the small but powerful body of work he left behind. With the exception of Franklin D. Israel, the Los Angeles whiz claimed by AIDS in 1996 at the age of 50, there has been no more grievous loss of a flagrantly gifted American architect among their generation.

Suddenly there is a scramble to heap Mockbee with the official recognition that largely eluded him during his brief lifetime. Well deserved though the belated attention might be, it recalls Joni Mitchell's rueful lyric "You don't know what you got till it's gone." (Admittedly, Mockbee was the recipient of a MacArthur Foundation "genius" grant, but he died little more than a year into its five-year run, and the much needed income, alas, did not devolve to the widow of a man who was blithely unconcerned with making a buck.)

In March, the American Institute of Architects posthumously awarded Mockbee its highest individual honor, the Gold Medal, which has gone to masters from Frank Lloyd Wright to Frank





## (american scene) architecture

Gehry. And on May 22, "Samuel Mockbee and the Rural Studio," a traveling exhibition of models, drawings, and photographs focusing on his efforts to improve the lot of impoverished blacks in Hale County, Alabama, opens at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C., where it runs through September 6. It is accompanied by a fittingly funky little catalog—published by the show's originating institution, the Birmingham Museum of Art, in Alabama—one of several publi-

cations that memorialize this major figure who was scandalously underappreciated just a decade ago.

Those were the prosperous Clinton years, which, if they lacked the vulgar ostentation of the Reagan era, were nonetheless just as self-absorbed and almost as oblivious to the ever widening gap between the super-rich and the desperately poor in this country. American architecture turned away from the superficial style wars of the '80s—when skyscrapers swapped bland International Style skins for

figure who was high-postmodern drag—and moved toward a nar-

high-postmodern drag—and moved toward a narcissistic obsession with theory, which reduced the building art to a cryptically encoded series of intellectual references unintelligible to the general public. The moral mission to help society's least fortunate, which motivated high-minded American architects from the New Deal of the 1930s through the Great Society of the 1960s, seemed as remote as the ancient Romans.

But not everyone saw advocacy architecture as a dead letter. Mockbee, a fifth-generation

> Mississippian born in Meridian in 1944, was an impressionable, idealistic 20-year-old during the brutal summer 40 years ago that witnessed the murder, close to his birthplace, of the young civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner, Decades later, Mockbee had an epiphany as he was stuck in a traffic jam outside Meridian and noticed, in an African-American churchyard, the humble gravestone of Chaney. As Mockbee reflected, "Chaney's courage was a gift to all of us. As architects, painters, teachers, we are also given a gift and with it a responsibility. And the question for us is the same as it was for James Chaney: Do we have the courage to make our gift account for something? Do we have the courage to confront social complacency and to live in harmony with each other?"

Since the 1970s, Mockbee had had a small but steady practice in Jackson, Mississippi, winning





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# (american scene) architecture

prestigious design awards and attracting attention beyond his region. In 1984 he began working with Coleman Coker, and together they devised a highly personal style, synthesizing southern vernacular traditions—think frontier dogtrot cabins rather than Biloxi baroque mansions—with the jittery angularity of deconstructivism, then all the rage among the bicoastal avantgarde. But, for Mockbee, greater success only underscored his sense that something urgent was still missing.

hus, in 1992, along with D. K. Ruth, chairman of Alabama's Auburn University School of Architecture, Mockbee founded the Rural Studio, a learning-by-doing program that would offer a socially conscious alternative to the conventional junior year abroad. Under Mockbee's close supervision, students would

design and build, free of charge, houses and community facilities for impoverished blacks in the state's Hale County, which had been the locus of James Agee and Walker Evans's 1936 classic *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men.* Conditions there had scarcely changed since the Great Depression, and Mockbee was determined to do something about that at last.

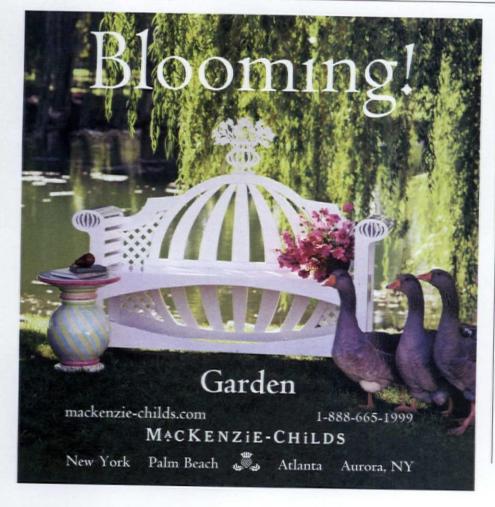


Commuting every week from his home in Mississippi, Mockbee, whom everyone called Sambo (a nickname I've never cottoned to), approached his new project like a military campaign. "If you're going to do this," he declared, "you gotta pack your bags, kiss your wife good-bye, and go to war." He fervently believed that architecture was a calling, a way

of life, and that the only way to teach that sense of commitment was to live among your students, as he put it, "24/7."

The works that Mockbee and the Rural Studio began producing-starting with their first completed effort, the Bryant house of 1994 in Mason's Bend, Alabama-fulfilled his goal of creating buildings that were "warm, dry, and noble." What he meant, of course, was that mere utility wasn't enough: this would be no bland Habitat for Humanity clone, with houses that look like cut-rate contractor jobs. Instead. Mockbee was determined that his new pro bono clients would have modern architecture of the highest quality, no less so than the rich white folks whose dreams of bucolic pleasure he had long enough indulged.

In rapid succession, a remarkable series of residences emerged from the Rural Studio, each distinguished by carefully considered programs tailored to the inhabitants' varying needs, by dynamic but functionally intelligent forms, and above all by the imaginative use of inexpensive materials—mainly recycled—in recent architecture. For example, the



outer walls of the Bryant house were made from hay bales that were wrapped in plastic sheeting, stacked like huge blocks, held in place with wire, and then coated in stucco. (The house cost just \$15,000, paid for by donations and grants.) Walls in the Lucy house of 2001–'02, also in Mason's Bend, were composed of meticulously aligned stacks of recycled carpet tiles, sheltered from the weather by the deeply overhanging roof that is a Rural Studio staple.

The faceted glass wall of the Mason's Bend Community Center of 2000, a meetinghouse and nondenomina-

tional chapel that looks

like a Frank Lloyd Wright

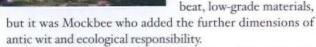
Usonian church from the

1950s, was ingeniously

pieced together from

The Butterfly House, below, takes its name from the winglike tin roof. Previously, the Harris family had lived in a shack without plumbing or heat. ■ The two-story porch, opposite page, connects with the house on both levels. Total costs came to \$30,000, paid for by grants and donations.





The enthusiasm with which the owners of Rural Studio houses have embraced their new, and sometimes rather eccentric, dwellings gives the lie to the patronizing notion that all the poor really want is the glitzy stuff they see on TV. "I was glad to get my house," Alberta Bryant told Mockbee's biographer, Andrea Oppenheimer Dean. "The children was glad; even the chickens and dogs was glad. I'm proud of my house."

A bearded bear of a man, Mockbee was a mass of contradictions: sensitive and tough-minded, a dreamer who painted weirdly symbolic pictures, and an activist who cut through a century and a half of regional political indifference. As one of his students put it, the architect came on like "a cross between a Mississippi redneck and an art freak." As you look back at Mockbee's lamentably truncated career, one thing is certain. Fires banked deep inside him were released and burned brightly once he took up the cause to which he devoted the remainder of his life. His inspiration, as this admirable exhibition makes one hope, will live on for years to come in the young men and women he recruited to his crusade for a more humane and uplifting American architecture.



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### What is the Litigation About?

Plaintiffs allege that the Defendant manufactured defective Entran II hose. The product was used in radiant heating and snow melting systems. They claim the hose is prone to leaking when operated under normal conditions. Entran II was also known as Twintran, Nytrace, Entran II Trace, Entran II Wire, Entran 2, Entran 2 Trace, and Entran 2 Wire. Defendant denies all claims of wrongdoing made by Plaintiffs. Defendant believes that if properly maintained Entran II hoses do not cause a problem.

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You may be a member of the Settlement Class if you are the current or former owner of property in which the Entran II hose has been installed. The property must be in the United States, its territories and possessions or Canada. If you own or owned property in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Connecticut or Rhode Island, in which Entran II was or is installed, you are not part of this lawsuit. To see if

your hose is covered by this Settlement you should check the Settlement Website or call the toll free number below.

### What are the Settlement Terms?

The Settlement Fund will be between \$196 million and \$236 million. Defendants will pay this amount over a five (5) year period. Depending upon the number of claims, Class Counsel estimate some Class Members may receive as much as 40% of the cost of remediation. Information on the specific relief Class Members can expect is detailed in a document called the Plan of Allocation and Distribution. Class Counsel

developed the Plan with the assistance of the Special Master, appointed by the Court, and other interested parties. The Plan is available on the Settlement Website or by calling the number below.

Class Counsel will petition the Court for reasonable attorneys' fees,

in an amount not to exceed \$58.8 million or 30% of the Settlement Fund, and expenses payable from the Settlement Fund.

### What Are My Legal Rights?

- If you wish to remain a member of the Settlement Class, you do
  not have to do anything. But, to share in the Settlement Fund you
  must file a claim as discussed below. If the Court approves the
  proposed Settlement, you will receive the benefits of the proposed
  Settlement. You will also be bound by all the Court's orders. This
  means you will drop any claims you may have against the Defendant
  that are covered by the Settlement.
- If you wish to file a claim, you must complete a Claim Form. You can get a Claim Form by contacting the Claims Administrator in writing, at the address given below, or by calling the toll-free number. It is also available on the Settlement Website. Claim Forms must be signed and postmarked no later than October 19, 2009.
- If you do not wish to be a member of the Settlement Class, you
  must sign a Request For Exclusion letter as outlined in the Settlement
  Agreement and Notice. Your request must be postmarked no later
  than May 7, 2004.

### When Will the Settlement be Approved?

The United States District Court for the District of New Jersey will hold a Fairness Hearing to decide if the proposed Settlement is fair,

reasonable and adequate on October 19, 2004. The Court will hold a separate second Hearing to consider Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees, on November 3, 2004. Both Hearings will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, 402 East State Street, Room 2020, Trenton, N.J. 08608.

In addition, the Ontario Superior Court will also hold a Fairness Hearing to decide if the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate. When that date is determined, it will be posted in the Canadian Notices and at www.entraniisettlement.com.

If you remain a member of the Settlement Class,

you or your counsel have the right to appear before the Court and object to the Settlement. However, in order to object, you must file a written objection, as outlined in the Settlement Agreement and Long Form Notice. Objections must be filed by May 7, 2004.

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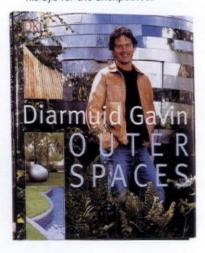
or Write: Entran II Claims Administrator, P.O. Box 24, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440-0024

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# books

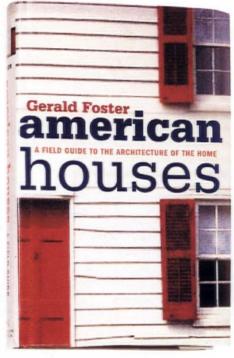


▼ OUTER SPACES (DK, \$30) The title is a play on the out-there garden designs of Diarmuid Gavin, the dynamo on the BBC's popular Home Front series. Twenty-five projects illustrate his scope and his eye for the unexpected.

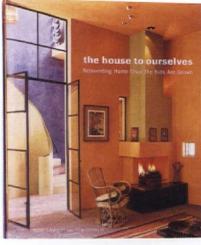


### RESTORING AMERICAN GARDENS

(Timber Press, \$40) Denise Wiles Adams engagingly documents the history—botanical and cultural—of the continually changing American garden. It's a vivid, instructive treat with a persuasive lesson: learn from the past.



A AMERICAN HOUSES (Houghton Mifflin, \$20) Anyone even remotely interested in domestic architecture should give thanks for this thorough, eminently readable guide by Gerald Foster. Thanks to him, you'll never look at a house the same way again.



\*\*THE HOUSE TO OURSELVES (Taunton, \$35) Quick, before your grown-up children decide they're going to fly back into the nest, refeather it. Todd Lawson and Tom Connor examine 20 different post-parting residential overhauls that will give you much to mull over, now or later.



AULDBRASS (Rizzoli, \$45) Yes, another Frank Lloyd Wright book, but a surprising one, by David G. DeLong. FLW designed only one plantation, and worked on it intermittently for years. In 1986, movie producer Joel Silver bought the South Carolina spread, which was in a sorry state, and has restored it to its intended glory. For more, see houseandgarden.com.

### LAURA SHAPIRO OPENS UP ON SOME OF HER FAVORITE BOOKS

Food historian Laura Shapiro, author of Perfection Salad (Random House), has just published a new book, Something from the Oven: Reinventing Dinner in 1950s America (Viking Penguin).

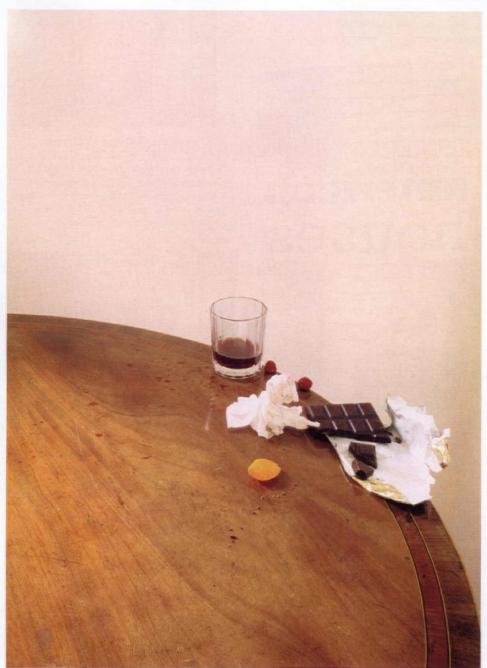
- THE WOULDBEGOODS by E. Nesbit (Penguin Putnam). "I was maybe eight when I encountered this witty, vastly literate British children's book, and promptly fell in love. Nesbit filled her books with child's-eye references to a world so mysterious and entrancing—upper-class, classically educated Britain, late nineteenth century—I longed to be there."
- THE FEMINIZATION OF AMERICAN CULTURE by Ann Douglas (Knopf). "An examination of Victorian sentimentality and its repercussions. Back in the seventies, the range and vigor of Douglas's thinking on women, culture, and history was eye-opening to me, and it's still inspirational today."
- LESS THAN ANGELS by Barbara Pym (Perennial). "Quiet, hilarious, addictive. Like all her novels, this one is a perfectly cut gem of irony and observation."
- ALICE JAMES: A BIOGRAPHY by Jean Strouse (Houghton Mifflin). "This exemplary portrait of Henry's sister, all but invisible in her lifetime, was the book that changed the rules of biography—it's not just for presidents anymore."
- **THE EGG AND I** by Betty MacDonald (Harper & Row Perennial). "An early and peerless example of women's humor, produced by a master. Her wry memoir of life on a hideous chicken ranch in the Pacific Northwest holds up beautifully after more than half a century."



# american scene) photography

### ON EDGE

THE UNSETTLING ARRANGEMENTS IN LAURA LETINSKY'S PHOTOGRAPHS INVITE US TO SPECULATE ON PRIVATE MOMENTS by caroline cunningham



poignant records of intimate repasts, and to unease and escape. of intimacy itself. Her luminous, large-scale of what has been cast aside. They encourage the same title later this spring.

"Untitled #39, Rome, 2001" (24 1/4 by 17 1/2 inches) is from Laura Letinsky's "Morning and Melancholy" series. The offhand details of domestic debris hint at a narrative, enticing the viewer to imagine the missing story line.

voyeurism and invite us to invent stories that explain them.

The photographs acknowledge the influence of seventeenth-century Dutch still-life painting, but the photographer's gaze is modern and unflinching. Her images are cropped to emphasize diagonals and compress space. They draw you in and then throw you off with arrangements that are deliberately provocative: plates and cups are placed at the margins of the frame, poised to fall and shatter; an abandoned lollipop leaves a sticky pink smear, like a kiss, on a plate.

In "Untitled #39, Rome, 2001," a partially eaten chocolate bar rests on the edge of a table; its wrapper floats off the surface like a torn sail. A twisted paper napkin rises up from the scratched surface, poised for flight. Two distinct planes - the table and the white backgroundflatten the space and trap a nearly empty glass of red wine in the center. The glass seems ready to slide off the table; a pattern of

aura Letinsky's photographs of deserted shimmering red drops indicates that some of its tables littered with stained linens, melon contents have already been spilled. It's like a rinds, crumpled paper, and coffee cups are photograph of a crime scene - everything points

The Renaissance Society, in Chicago, is having images capture the drama of household debris, a show of Letinsky's work, "Hardly More Than making something beautiful and revelatory out Ever," through April 19, and will publish a book of

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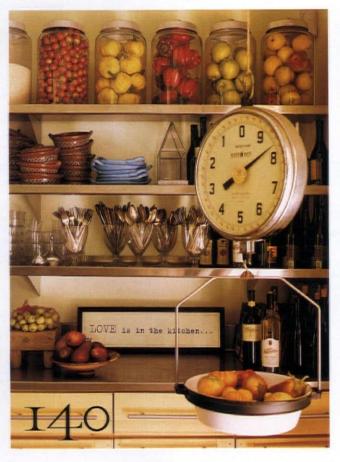


\*See your Lexus Certified Pre-Owned dealer for warranty details. Lexus reminds you to wear seatbelts, secure children in rear seat, obey all traffic laws and drive responsibly. ©2003 Lexus.

# LANIE ACEVEDO, FREDERIK LIEBERATH (FROM LEFT)

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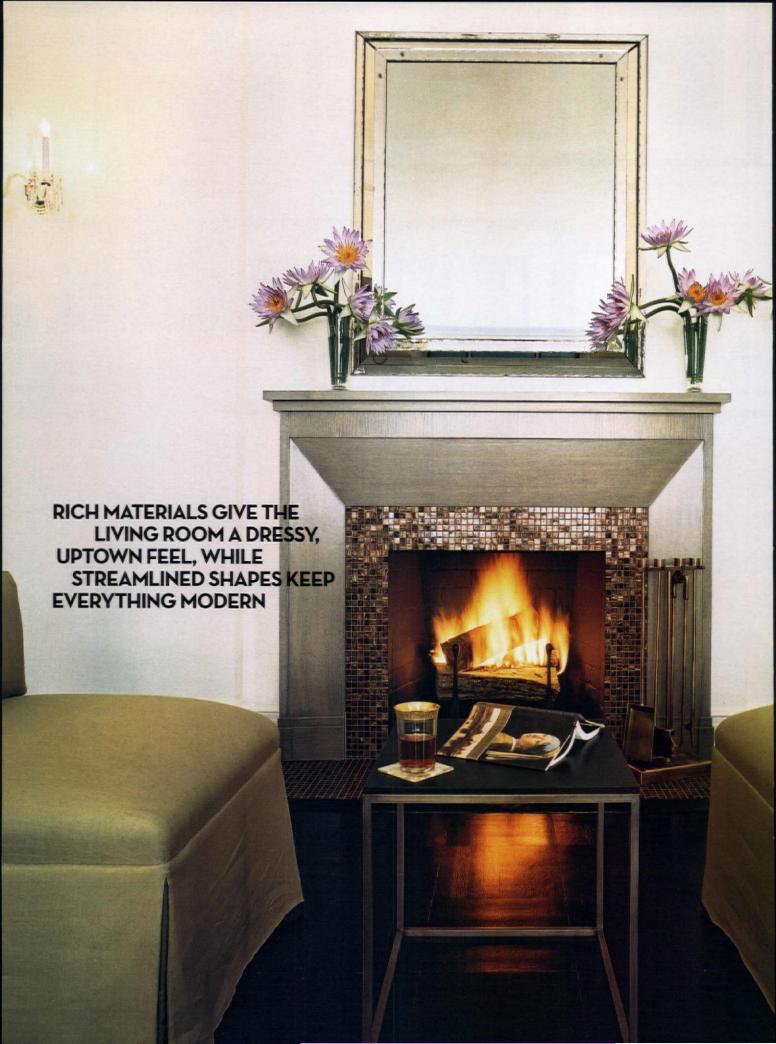
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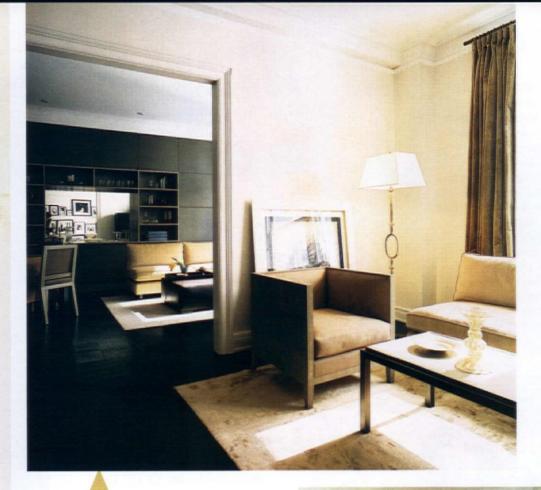






### TRADE SECRETS

The living room, while comfortable, was sparsely furnished to create an open space for entertaining. **FURNITURE Reproduction** Jean-Michel Frank shagreen armchair, right, and slipper chairs and table, below, all custom by Furniture Masters, FIREPLACE Le Gemme mosaic tiles, Bisazza. Fire tools by Danny Alessandro. **ACCENTS Venetian** mirror, Paterae, NYC.



As the editorial director of a national bridal magazine, Darcy Miller Nussbaum knows a thing or two about a good marriage. So when architect David Mann walked in the door, she knew it was a match. She wasn't looking for a groom: Miller was already very much in love with her husband, Andy Nussbaum. But after interviewing a long succession of architects and designers to renovate their new apartment, she knew right away that Mann was her man.

He wasn't the obvious choice. An architect and interior designer, Mann is best known for his minimalist downtown lofts, not for redos of

classic apartments uptown on Manhattan's gold coast. Still, Miller recognized him as a fellow perfectionist who could realize her vision of a sophisticated and dressy space with a contemporary flair. "I wanted to maintain the traditional side of the prewar architecture," she says, "but also make it feel young and modern."

Miller had been collecting images of fabrics and furniture styles for years. She handed Mann a two-foot-high stack of clippings from magazines and catalogs. He came back with a luxurious scheme of autumn shades, plush materials, and a state-of-the-art kitchen with the feel of a 1930s laboratory.





### TRADE SECRETS

To accommodate a growing family, Darcy and Andy Nussbaum. below with baby Daisy, requested built-in storage units such as the dining room's paneled wall cabinets. FURNITURE Custom dining table, chairs, and sofa, Furniture Masters, WALL PANELING Clad in Edelman Leather. PLATES Gold chargers, Richard Ginori. Juliska glassware.





For once, she didn't hesitate—a relief to her husband, who had waited two years after their meeting for her to agree to a date (her employer, Martha Stewart, was the matchmaker). "Everything I showed them the first time was a complete hit," says Mann, who is still amazed by the rapport he had with the couple. "I don't think I've ever had that before."

With a view down Park Avenue from the master suite and three bedrooms, the apartment promised to be a showstopper. But its poten-

tial was marred by a convoluted layout and red wallpaper. Mann proposed widening the opening between the living and dining rooms to create a more fluid space. He streamlined hallways and created a unified appearance with dark wood floors and cream walls in waxed Venetian plaster. This became the backdrop for a color scheme of rich muted shades such as khaki and green. In the entrance hall, a floor in golden Mexican onyx acts as a "sumptuous overture for the whole apartment," says Mann.

There are opulent touches such as those in the master suite, with its large suede-paneled headboard, silk curtains, and a bathroom fit for Marilyn Monroe, with mirrored walls, crystal chandeliers, and bronzed faucets. Yet behind the lush facade lie the bones of a practical family apartment. In almost every room and hallway, built-in cabinetry, invisible behind stained-oak fronts, conceals everything from stereo equipment to Miller's expanding collection of scrapbooks and memory boxes.



# IN THE DINING ROOM, ENTIRE WALLS OF STORAGE ARE INVISIBLE BEHIND STAINED-OAK CABINET FRONTS THAT RESEMBLE PANELS







An inveterate entertainer, she pulls out her latest photo album to illustrate the workability of the design. In the dining room, where with her extended family she celebrates the Jewish new year, the square table for 4 expands to seat 14. The uninterrupted flow from the hall through the living and dining rooms is ideal for the larger parties she throws. Open up the hidden cabinetry and out come extra linens and barware. "I never have to rent tables," she says.

Three months after moving in, Miller became pregnant. A year and a half later, baby Daisy, now ten months old, is poised to begin crawling; an ExerSaucer bouncy chair in primary

colors stands out in the stainless-steel kitchen. The couple's friends tease the Nussbaums that they would have decorated the apartment quite differently had they already been parents. But Miller has no regrets. She grew up not far from here in a formal apartment elegantly decorated in the 1980s by designer Kevin Walz. "I didn't want pink bunnies," she says. "I wanted something with longevity."

Nussbaum, who admits that he let his wife and Mann do most of the designing, points out that most of the finishes in the apartment, from the wood floors to the plaster walls, are durable and easy to clean. "Will we be happy when the first glass of grape juice gets spilled on one of the sofas?" he says. "Probably not. But they tell me it's all been stain-proofed."





# TRADE SECRETS A COMMERCIAL KITCHEN GETS TOUCHES OF WARMTH



# THE KITCHEN LABORATORY

- The cabinetry was custom-made by Lab Fabricators, an Ohio firm that specializes in laboratory equipment. The sleekness of the contemporary kitchen is combined with a retro feel that is fitting in this prewar apartment.
- Stainless-steel overhead lighting from Pell Artifex works with the room's industrial look. Incandescent light warms up the space. as does the shell pendant lamp over the kitchen table: the lamp's romantic glow is enhanced by an amber lightbulb. Nearly invisible fluorescent task lighting by Alkco is placed within cabinets and under shelves.

### CRYSTAL CLEAR

- Standard lab cabinets were adapted for this residential kitchen. Commercial-style handles were replaced with more delicate Omnia knobs.
- The cabinets were resized to create floor-to-ceiling storage for the Nussbaums' china collection.

## **TOP SHELF**

- Display shelves instead of cabinets over the sink make the narrow space appear larger.
- Louro preto veneer shelves act as a textural counterpoint to the stainless-steel counters and backsplash.



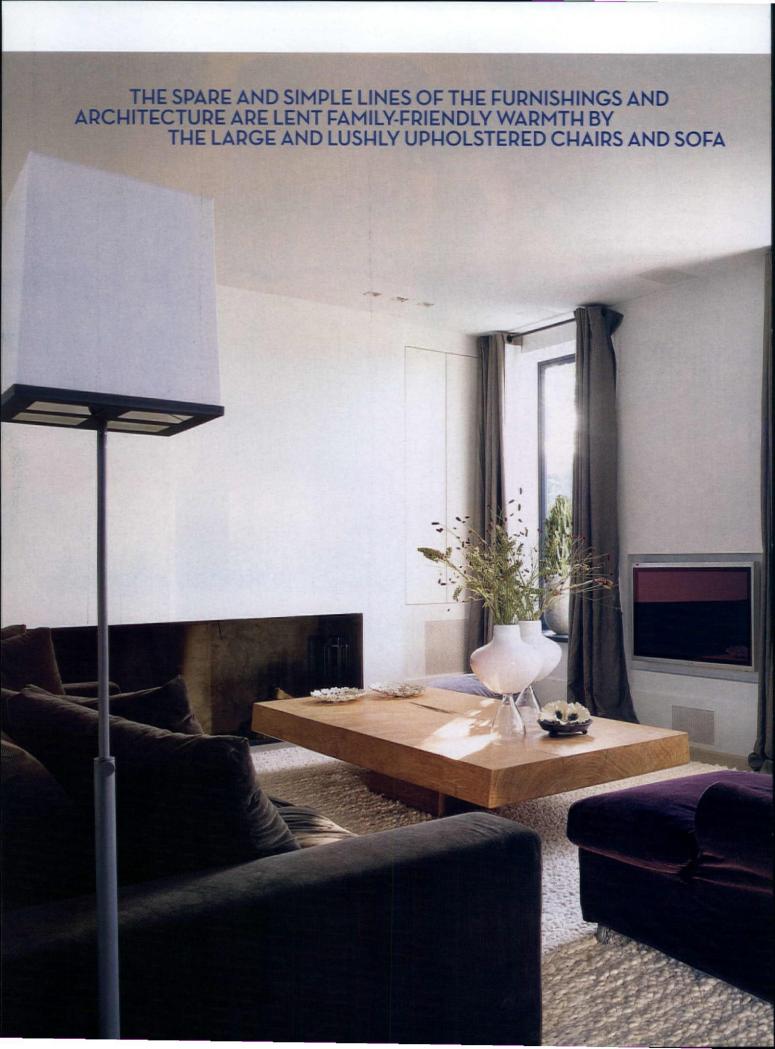




# DOUBLE DUTCH

ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE EXIST IN PERFECT HARMONY IN THIS HOME CREATED BY TWO OF THE NETHERLANDS' TOP DESIGN TALENTS, PIET BOON AND PIET OUDOLF









hen I stare at glossy magazine photos of pristinely spare, Pawson-perfect minimalist interiors, my first feeling is the sense of calm all that restrained spaciousness inspires. Ah, to live like that, in a constant state of Zen-like equipoise, where nothing is extraneous. Then ire rises. But of course they can live like this: they have no children charting a Hansel-and-Gretel-like course of droppings through the bouse. Or, worse, when the austere space in question is a family home, my sentiments fly toward righteous indignation. Those poor children, harnessed into a life of joyless fealty to good taste, denied their basic right to goofy Disney products or SpongeBob flatware.

Given these conflicting opinions, it was a joy to discover a house that reconciles them all: the home of Dutch designers Piet and Karin Boon, where modernism lives up to its ideal as a recipe for good living. Their house, in the village of Oostzaan, near Amsterdam, shows an equal regard for beauty and pleasure. While the decoration is spare and lovely, so too is it rugged and practical. "The children ride bikes in the house, because the furniture is indestructible," Piet says, "I admire minimalism, but a home must have warmth; it should be like a good coat."

Boon, with his wife and fellow designer, Karin, and their children, in the living room, above. ■ The chairs, left, are Flexform's Nonnamaria, covered in a heavy velour. The Flexform Groundpiece sofa in corduroy is positioned across from the JVC flat screen television. The teak coffee table is Boon's own design. The wool carpet is by B.I.C. Carpets, Belgium; the standing lamp, Christian Liaigre. Vases and flowers from Menno Kroon, Amsterdam.





Airy serenity pervades the bedroom, above, with its vaulted ceiling, white linen curtains, and flooring and closet doors in white oak. Charlotta chairs by Flexform. ■ The master bath, above right and opposite page, features Boffi's Po tub in Pietra Serena stone, with a KWC floor tap, and Adige sink in Bihara stone, with a KWC Disco faucet. Boffi's custom I Fiumi bleached oak cabinetry; wooden floor mats, Baden Baden, Amsterdam. Mirror and stainless-steel-and-oak stool, custom by Piet Boon. ■ In the study, right, Prandina lights hang above an oak table custom-made by Boon. Elle desk chair by Bonacina; wall paint, Farrow & Ball. Curtains in a custom brown linen hang from hardware that Boon designed and built.



**MODERNISM THAT** HAS CHARACTER AND IS PRACTICAL FOR EVERYDAY LIVING WAS **ACHIEVED BY THE** USE OF STRONG, DURABLE, EARTH-TONED WOOD AND STONE. IN THE MASTER BATH, THE MOOD IS **ESTABLISHED** WITH THE CLEAN LINES OF SIMPLE GEOMETRIC FORMS-SQUARES, RECTANGLES, AND CIRCLES

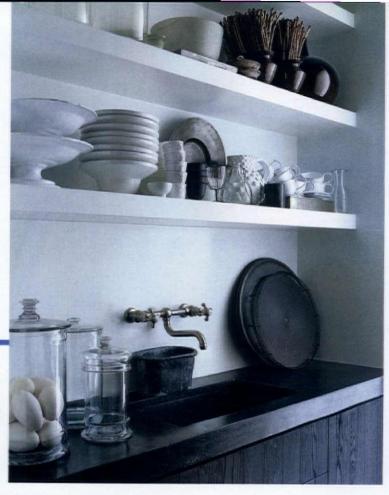
# TRADE SECRETS

A FAMILY KITCHEN MADE FOR COMPANY, NOT CLUTTER

## TALE OF TWO KITCHENS

To maintain the order and simplicity of both the house and garden, Boon divided his kitchen into several parts. The "back kitchen" holds most of the appliances: a tall Miele refrigerator, an Imperial microwave and steamer, and a Miele espresso maker. He chose a wall-mounted faucet from Volevatch because the space for the terrazzo countertop and stained oak cabinets is so shallow. He mixed Astier de Villatte dishes with vintage pieces.

MAIN EVENT The primary kitchen space is anchored by a long, oak dining table that displays Boon's devotion to natural materials and sturdy forms. For easy cleaning, he covered the dining chairs, which he also designed, in denim slipcovers. Two alcoves and their glass-fronted, stainless-steel cabinets were designed to fit together.





#### **OPEN SEASON**

- The only major appliance visible in the main kitchen is a stainless-steel La Cornue stove. A plaster hood edged with stainless steel links the architecture and the appliance.
- Boon dislikes upper cabinets, so he created chunky oak shelves that echo the proportions of his furniture. His brushed-oak cabinets under the thick terrazzo countertops hide two Miele refrigerators and a Miele dishwasher.
- Stainless-steel doors with an open geometric pattern lead to the wine cellar.
- The house's geothermal system heats the black stone floor. A Boffi ceiling fan also helps regulate room temperature.
- Square ceiling spotlights and halogen wall lamps are from Modular Lighting.
- A Volevatch faucet is mounted on the counter.
- Tall doors connect to the terrace—and the barbecue.





The Boons were well positioned to create a casual and timeless interior fashioned from "honest" materials, like wood, stone, and natural textiles. They operate Piet Boon, a firm that builds houses, designs furniture, and does interior decoration, or what Karin calls "styling." While the exterior of the house is rather classical, the layout indoors is open and modern. The rooms are large and bright. Most of the simple wood furnishings, like the dining table and coffee table, are made by Piet in his carpentry studio. He recently launched a line of his sturdy, slightly overscaled oak chairs and tables, and pieces for the outdoors. (He hasn't yet lined up a U.S. distributor. Holly Hunt, are you reading this?) Pieces he didn't design, but loves—cozy Flexform sofas, high-style Boffi and Volevatch kitchen and bath pieces—he sells at his shop, Baden Baden, in Amsterdam.

hat the house flows so graciously from the indoors out is a result of the Boons' collaboration with Piet Oudolf, the renowned Dutch plantsman and garden designer. Oudolf, who is well-known for his naturalistic perennial gardens, relished the challenge of designing an architecturally formal garden that would be, as he says, "suited to life nowadays, rather than mired in the past."

The Boons live on a modest country road, and didn't want to impose their expensive modern house on neighbors. Oudolf created a sober face to the street: a tall beech hedge with a small wooden gate obscures all but the house's zinc roof. The front courtyard is filled with a wonderful graphic parterre centered on great roundels of willow-leaved pear, a silver tree that Oudolf is likely the first ever to have used as a hedging plant.

Puck takes a plunge, above. A bankirai deck surrounds the infinityedged pool. Bordering it are beds of Deschampsia cespitosa, with low, freestanding yew hedges that frame the perennial borders beyond. The grass courtyard between pool and terrace, right, features walls with stacked wood that conceal the car park. Sculpture by Bart Hoek. Dawn light filters through Piet Oudolf's perennials, opposite page, planted in an uncharacteristically rhythmic pattern, with the rosy heads of eupatorium and the airy plumes of Molinia 'Transparent' repeated at regular intervals. The sides of the garden are enclosed by a mixed hedgerow of Cornus mas, Acer campestre, and beech, but the view out to the farmland is left open.







Oudolf designed a front courtyard of clipped hedges, but no flowersa modern parterre of simple geometric shapes. Opposite page and left, tall beech hedges block the house from the street, and shorter ones line the path to the front door. Within the beeches, great roundels of clipped willow-leaved pear, Pyrus salicifolia, sit inside squares of yew cut with paths. Boon reads on one of the house's terraces. below. Teak chairs from Annapart, Netherlands, and antique stools surround a freestone table. Umbrella from Heliteak, Belgium; on the table, antique sinks from Menno Kroon are planted with Verbena bonariensis and ornamental grass. Sources, see back of book.

# OVERSCALE PLANTINGS PUT A WINSOME SPIN ON A CLASSIC PARTERRE

From inside, the house seems to open at every point onto an expansive garden that is both formal and romantic. Oudolf surrounded a long, black reflecting pool with equally long, wide borders of the delicate grass Deschampsia cespitosa, intersected by hedges of clipped vew. On either side of these he created lush, billowing perennial borders, filled with his signature mix of contrasting plant shapes, but in a more rhythmic, less wild way than usual. With daisies, umbels, spires, and grasses, all in subtly calibrated tonal ranges, Oudolf repeats the rounded forms of joe-pye weed, Eupatorium maculatum 'Atropurpureum,' and the graceful grass Molinia 'Transparent.' The seethrough grass seems to blend all the flowers in the border into a hazy, harmonious whole.

In warm weather, house and garden are one; doors open onto terraces with chaises, dining tables, and fireplaces. The kids play soccer in a field behind the perennials, hang out in a tepee their parents built, swim in the

pool, or bounce on a huge trampoline that more rigid designer parents would never permit. Last summer the Boons took a much needed four-week vacation. No phones. No faxes. Where did they go? They stayed home. The beauty of this house is that it was designed for their pleasure.  $\square$ 











**OPEN** HOUSE E WAY

# THE NAUTILUS SWIRL OF THE CUSTOM-DESIGNED STAIRCASE



## PULLS YOU INTO THE HOME





he celebrated design team of William Diamond and Anthony Baratta had been to this Fifth Avenue apartment before. In fact, they had worked on it twice in the previous 17 years, for the same client.

As her family's needs changed, so had the home, going from an elegant traditional to one that defined urbane American country living. "I think we invented the Diamond and Baratta style with her," Diamond says. "That very cleaned-up, fresh country look, because she was always trying to figure out what works for her family." What works best for a family that includes six children and three dogs is space, and this time the client told the designers that she wanted a loftlike feeling, lots of wood, blue: something "clean, fresh, young, and timeless" -a concept that manifested Lao-tzu's precept "Embrace simplicity."

Diamond and Baratta are the kings of color and exuberant detail, and the client's idea of paring down "forced us to rethink things," Diamond says. "She has taught us." She maintained her usual level of intimate involvement with the process, which expanded when an adjoining apartment became part of the home. "This project reflects her involvement," Diamond says. "Simple, minimal patterns, not a lot of mixing of color, a strong spiritual component."

The designers banished "every aspect of a typical Fifth Avenue apartment," Baratta says. Walls came down. "We left one structural column because we had to-otherwise the building would have caved in." The result is a home filled with flowing light. Shades of blue, gray, and camel create a tranquil atmosphere. The space pulsates with an intellectual charge sparked by rigorous editing and the reuse of pieces purchased for the previous two incarnations.



## CLEAN-LINED FURNITURE

he glow of light-bleached pine from Fred Warren of London against the brightest of Benjamin Moore's bright white painted walls warms the entry, which is dominated by a spectacular custom-designed staircase. "It's all about up, up, up, light, light," Diamond says. Warren Platner's table from Knoll's current catalog and a steel 1930s French post office piece help organize the inevitable keys-hats-glovesbooks clutter of coming and going. The designers juxtaposed an Arts and Crafts chair reminiscent of Charles Rennie Mackintosh's 1897 Argyle side chair, a landmark on the route to modernism, with an eighteenth-century American corner chair, and anchored the space with a rug by Diamond Baratta and realized by one of the designers' resources, A.M. Collections, Ltd. Inspired by a design credited to Terence Conran, the rug also evokes the New Look of the great British textiles designer Lucienne Day, whose work in the 1950s reflected that of artists such as Miró and Calder. "Everyone comments on the rug," says Diamond, who used his favorite blue-green-gray palette. "They don't know it is fifties; they just think it is cool."

The same eclecticism reigns in the 1,200-square-foot living room-up from 500 square feet in the first design-which easily accommodates three traditional sofas and two classic wingback chairs. The designers used only four fabrics and a custom-designed striped dhurrie woven by Shyam Ahuja Ltd. in New York. Nineteenth-century metal and upholstery chairs that flip into cots surround a massive, high-gloss, dark lacquered table made by Ron Seff. The gloss is "very Billy Baldwin from the sixties and seventies," Diamond says. For a room filled with books and (Cont. on page 169)



# AND A STRIPED RUG GIVE THE LIVING ROOM A LINEAR QUALITY



# TRADE SECRETS

FIND BEAUTY IN A KITCHEN'S SIMPLE UTILITARIAN ELEGANCE



#### **COOK'S HELPERS**

This well-equipped stainlesssteel kitchen allows the owner to cook with ease.

- A 5-foot Wolf range has a custom hood.
- Two refrigerators and a separate ice maker, all from Sub-Zero, are especially useful for parties.
- A Miele dishwasher blends in with custom cabinets.

#### A COHESIVE LOOK

The palette and materials complement those in the rest of the apartment.

- Antique crockery alludes to blue tones found in carpets and delft lamps elsewhere.
- Sleek, stainless-steel counters nod to metallic accents upstairs.
- White oak flooring echoes wood used in the living room and foyer.

#### **BRIGHT LIGHTS**

The client was particularly concerned that the space be well lit.

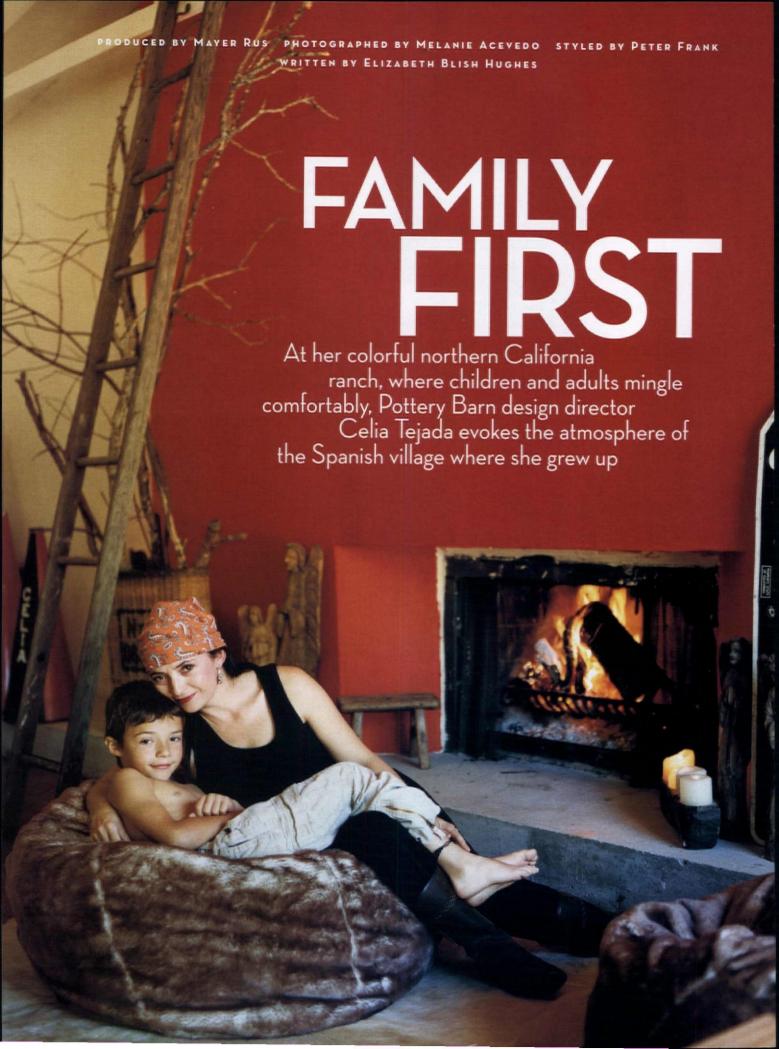
- Modular International's adjustable Modupoint lights perennial favorites—form
- a grid on the ceiling.
- Factory lamps from Ann Morris Antiques illuminate the table, and lights under the shelves complete the luminous setup.

#### **ROOM TO SERVE**

The client entertains often, so she needs plenty of space.

- The designers had two Pottery Barn tables joined together to form a 10-footlong table.
- Doors open onto a dining room with a similar seating arrangement. The proximity of the rooms allows guests to move casually between the two.









TRADE SECRETS

PAINT A wall and fireplace surround in Ralph Lauren's Rodeo Red lend a jolt to the master bedroom, left. which used to be the garage. Exposed beams in white highlight the lofty space. CURTAINS Celia designed the linen curtains, and Ivo hung them with industrial cable. weighted by river rocks at each end. JACUZZI The tub surround is fashioned from fir planks. The same wood was used for the main room's flooring and the sofa pit, opposite page. ACCENTS The beanbag chairs in the master bedroom and the main room's striped pillows are from Pottery Barn. A Mexican serving dish holds walnuts grown on the ranch. COLLECTIONS Celia stacks cigar boxes high against the bedroom wall. Suitcases found in flea markets provide storage, below.

rive two hours north of San Francisco, beyond the wine country of casual elegance, and you come to where rural gets real. The air smells of bay trees, wood smoke, and cow. You rumble across a roaring creek, creep along a grassy track, and blink at the exuberant red ranch house, all windows and welcome.

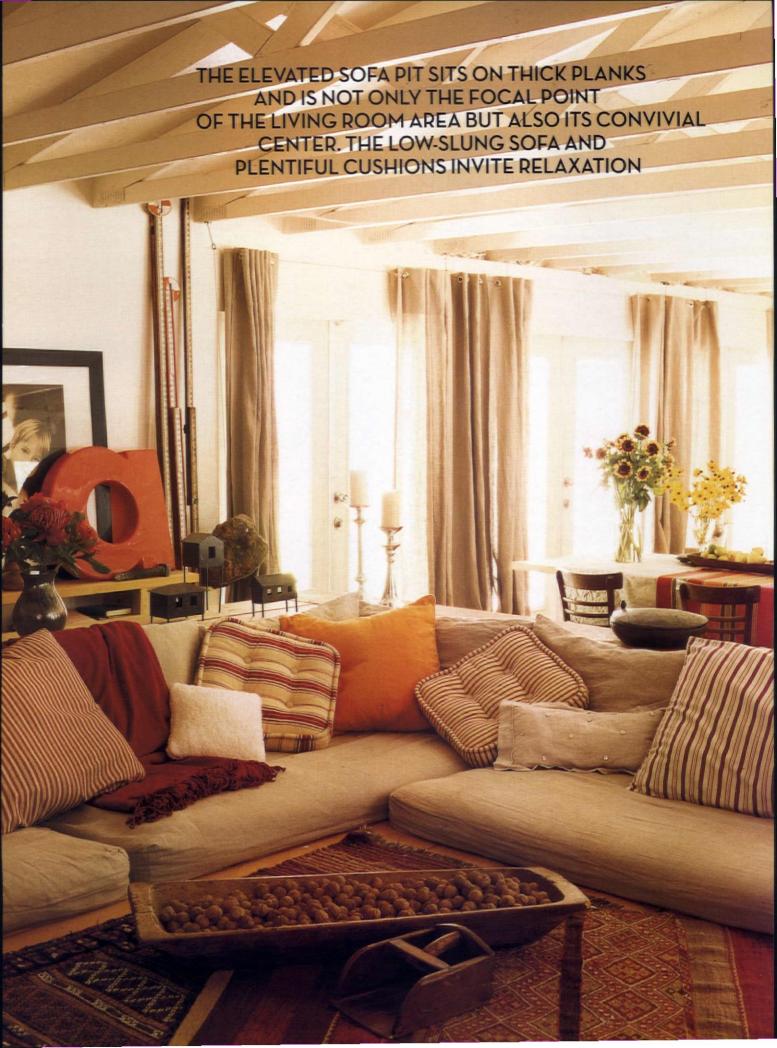
"It's the wrong shade of red, but don't tell my brother," says Celia Tejada, who has used at least eight shades of red—so far—in the house she owns with her brother, Ivo.

"She is impossible, impossible to work with," he confides as Celia stands within earshot. "Impossible."

This lifelong bantering started a world away, in Ruerrero, a Spanish farm town known for making goat cheese. Here in northern California, Celia, the senior vice president for design and product development at Pottery Barn, is designing Tejada Ranch, an 82-acre weekend place for herself; her two children; Ivo, a Bay Area contractor; his wife, Nina; and their two children. "My house is for me, my family, and my friends," says Celia, who credits Ivo's "hands of gold" for realizing her sketches. "Everybody has a word in it. And I do it for the joy of playing with the space."

Celia and Ivo wanted a retreat where they could instill the values of their village in their children. When he found the property in 1999, she knew that it had the potential to be magic. Bounded by creeks and a river, the land includes steep hills with a ribbon waterfall, woods, pasture, fruit and nut trees, and stands of weeping silver birch and cypress around the house. But, oh,





# TRADE SECRETS

### SOCIAL MOBILITY

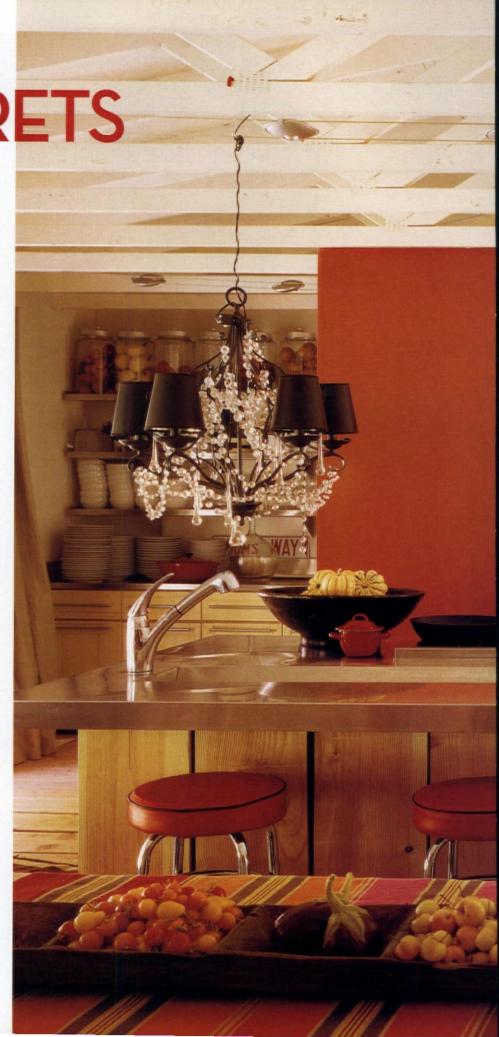
- The main room's open plan ensures an easy flow between distinct areas meant for living/entertainment, dining, and cooking. The chef can even watch movies across the room while she cooks. In the kitchen, as throughout, Tejada blends fun and function.
- A vivid wall in Ralph Lauren Paint's Rodeo Red is a visual clue that the kitchen space is the heart of this house. It partially hides the pantry, two Maytag dishwashers, a Kenmore refrigerator, and a large industrial sink.

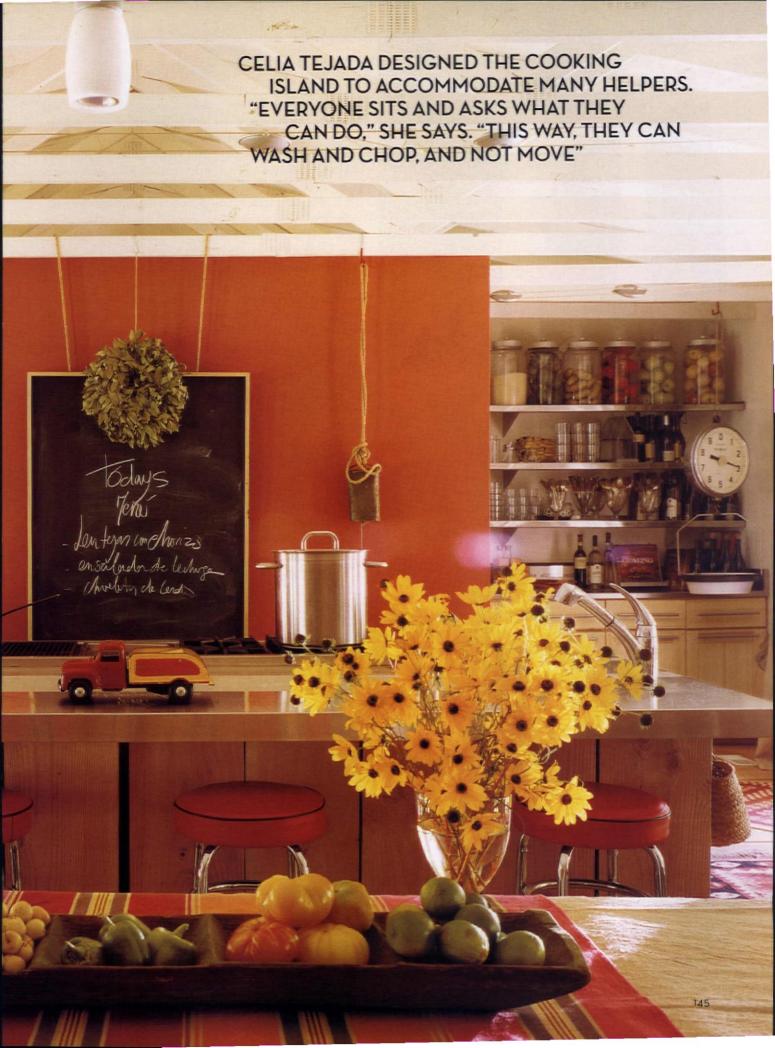
## ISLAND LIVING

- Ivo built the 5-by-10-foot island, designed to put everyone to work. The stainless-steel countertop dips seamlessly into a 1-by-8-foot sink, and incorporates a 60-inch Viking stove.
- The 5-inch-deep trough, mainly for prep work, has a Moen pullout faucet from Home Depot at each end. During parties, the sink becomes a raw bar or a giant ice bucket for chilling wine.
- Tejada used the same fir planks for the floor, tabletop, and island. Hooks on the short sides hold tools.

#### IN THE MIX

- Multiple light sources satisfy many needs. Six French doors—three on each side of the island—open to the view, and allow natural light to pour in. Overhead, halogen bulbs on a wire track from IKEA provide task lighting, but visually recede. A crystal chandelier from Pottery Barn brings a bit of sparkle to the atmosphere.
- Adding to the cheerful welcome, a chalkboard on the red wall holds messages for guests and the daily menu.
- Unpretentious open shelves from a restaurant supply store display
   Tejada's tableware and glass jars with vegetables from the garden. The cabinets and hardware are from IKEA.
- Barstools, covered in red leather, are also from a restaurant supply store.







the house. Built in the '70s, it had low ceilings, small rooms, and little light. Fortunately, it also had the bones to support change.

Just inside the main entry is a gallery—the Spanish version of a New England mudroom—with a vaulted ceiling and an easy-to-clean cement floor. Private space, including all the bedrooms except Celia's, is to the left; to the right is public space that celebrates the love of family, friends, good food, and conversation.

The roof, with beams running below, is now the ceiling of the 25-by-45-foot main room. Six sets of French doors make the space feel as if it were walled in glass. At one end of the room the dominant feature is an elevated, custom-designed sofa pit that faces a grandly rustic fireplace. The sofa absorbs all comers, who nap, read, or watch movies on the wall-mounted screen; the sofa back has an extended lip that serves as a table for art or craft projects. Mid-room is the dining area, with a long table made of planks atop big-wheeled industrial restaurant preparation tables. Beyond is the spacious cooking area that Celia designed.

She turned the former garage into her bedroom, which has a wall of red, a fireplace, and a freestanding bathtub next to a wall of French doors. At some point the space will become the boys' bunkhouse, and Celia will move into an addition yet to be built.

This is a place of practical whimsy, inside and out. Ivo's vintage Dodge flatbed—blue sculpture doubling as machinery—serves as the bar for outdoor dinners. Hay bales provide seating. Candle-filled chandeliers hang from pulleys on tree limbs. The chicken coop has eight nesting areas, each painted a different color, a touch that fails to quiet African fowl that defend the place against rattlesnakes. Eight garden beds—one for each fam-

ily member, plus one for guests—are filled with vegetables.

Ivo and a friend from Ruerrero are remodeling the barn. They envision a space for family festivals, cooking, dining, movies, and performances. Beyond are the vineyards of Spanish varietals that have already produced several vintages. "Ivo planted the vineyard with great love," Celia says.

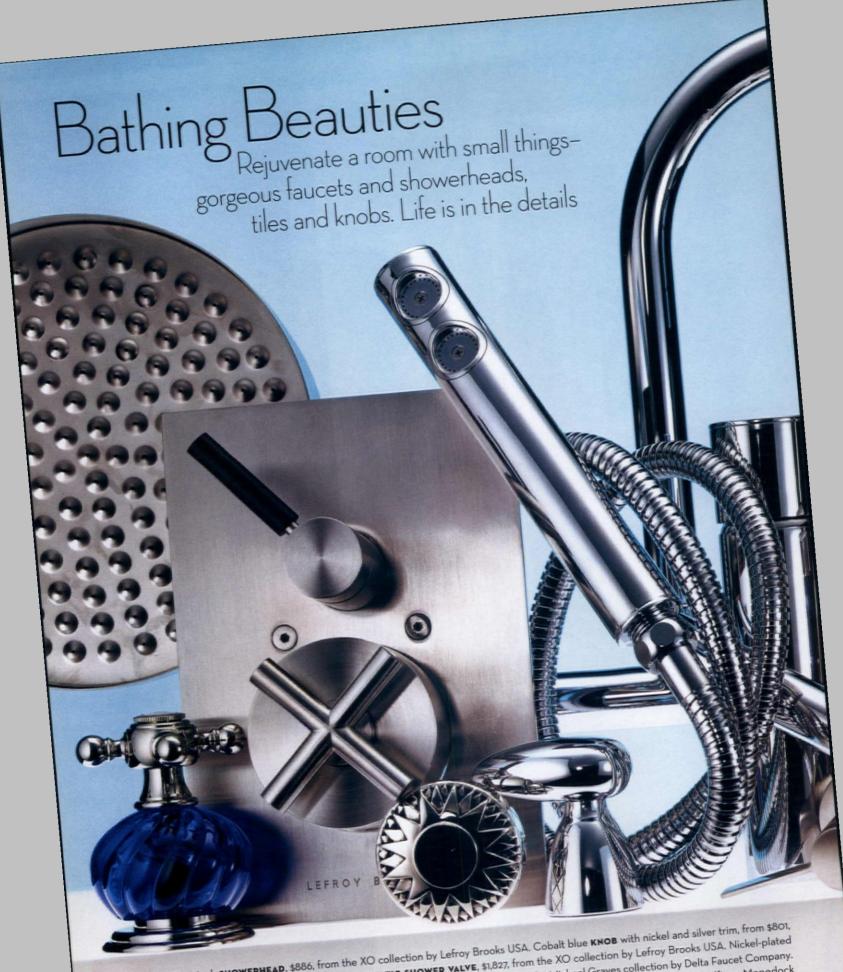
They want to make the retreat self-sufficient. Already the children gather eggs daily. Celia envisions olive trees and pressing her own olive oil. Alberto Solis, a family friend who deals in specialty foods, is investigating the potential for walnut oil. Pigs, cows, and horses will join the dogs and cats already in residence. "This is," Celia says, "a work in progress."

Elizabeth Blish Hughes is a writer based in San Francisco and New York.

The inside of an old Airstream camper, above, which now serves as a playhouse and guesthouse, has been painted the same fiery red as the ranch interiors. The lantern and linen hotel table covering are by Pottery Barn; the shawl is Spanish. ■ The rustic mudroom, right, offers a place to hang hats, jackets, and other outdoor gear. ■ The handsome and serviceable washroom, opposite page, was once the flyway connecting the house to the garage. Each child has a basket for storing things. On the wall opposite the sinks, hidden behind swaths of natural linen, are floorto-ceiling shelves that hold all manner of household items. including towels, blankets, lightbulbs, and chairs. Svepa glasses, Ann sinks, and Frack extending mirrors are from IKEA. Wall mirrors and basket are from Pottery Barn.





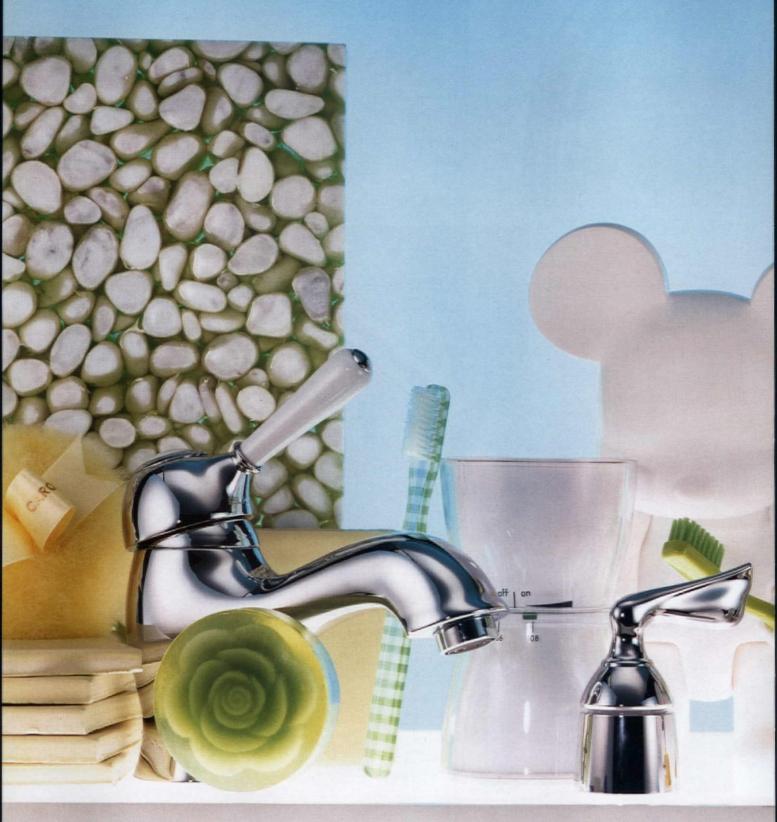


From left: Zu 8-inch SHOWERHEAD, \$886, from the XO collection by Lefroy Brooks USA. Cobalt blue KNOB with nickel and silver trim, from \$801, from the Baccarat collection by Kallista. Zu THERMOSTATIC SHOWER VALVE, \$1,827, from the XO collection by Lefroy Brooks USA. Nickel-plated from the Baccarat collection by Kallista. Zu THERMOSTATIC SHOWER VALVE, \$1,827, from the Michael Graves collection by Delta Faucet Company. Greet Deco basin KNOB, part of a set, from P. E. Guerin, NYC. Chrome LEVER, \$67, from the Modern collection by Rohl. Alfiere Monodock HAND SPRAY with hose, from \$259, and bridge-style lavatory FAUCET, from \$834, from the Modern collection by Rohl. Alfiere Monodock FAUCET, \$520, by Porcher. Zu FLOW CONTROL VALVE, \$564, from the XO collection by Lefroy Brooks USA.



From left: Easton black porcelain LEVER, \$785 for a set, by Waterworks. Renaissance 6-by-6-inch ceramic TILE V70, \$40 each; honed-marble honeycomb TILE V51, \$42 for an 11-by-11-inch sheet; and stainless-steel TILE BLOCK V108, all from Urban Archaeology, NYC. Blue Meta Plasma FAUCET, from \$690, by Dornbracht. Spring Leaves Dot 3-by-3-inch ceramic TILE in Wedgwood Blue from the Gramercy Park collection, \$14.50, from Walker Zanger. Jo Mono BASIN FAUCET, \$1,274, from the XO collection by Lefroy Brooks USA. Lorenzo Villoresi BUBBLE BATH, \$25, from LAFCO, New York.

# Green and yellow accents give a fresh and sunny feeling to



From left: Riverstone Verde RESIN SLAB, \$50 per square foot, from Urban Archaeology, NYC, and Artistic Tile. Medium-sized, down POWDER PUFF, \$50, from Caron Paris, NYC. Field TILE in light chartreuse, from the Ann Sacks Collection. Allure single-lever lavatory FAUCET with white porcelain handle, \$325, Elkay. Green Flower honey SOAP, \$2, Pearl River Mart, NYC. Green-and-white gingham TOOTHBRUSH, \$6.50, the Terence Conran Shop. White Diabolo FM RADIO, \$38.50, by Elise Berthier for Lexon. Asceri Accents MINI-HANDLE in chrome, \$73 for a set, from Moen. Qee CAT, \$30, from Kid Robot, NYC. Green TOOTHBRUSH, \$8, from Paul Smith Accessories.

he bath. Good design isn't always serious—there's room for fun, too, ducky



From left: white Williamsburg KNOB, \$526, for a set, from Kraft Hardware, NYC. Acid Green and Lucky Yellow Dots and Circles 4-by-4-inch TILE, V56, \$15.40 each, Urban Archaeology, NYC. White TISSUE BOX, \$85, square-lidded CONTAINER, \$75, and TOOTHBRUSH HOLDER, \$40, from Waterworks. Lime green ATOMIZER, \$40, Bond No. 9, New York. DOTTIE DUCK, \$9, from C. O. Bigelow Apothecary, NYC. White porcelain Portofino SHOWERHEAD, \$110, from Bond Bath and Home Gallery, NYC. Crystal Rocks GLASS in Topaz, \$215 for a set of two, Marc Jacobs, NYC. Satin chrome Williamsburg FAUCET, \$526, from Kraft Hardware, NYC. Olive You lime green SOAP, \$18, from Bar XV by Norma Kamali, NYC. Bowbrick DOG, \$8, Kid Robot.

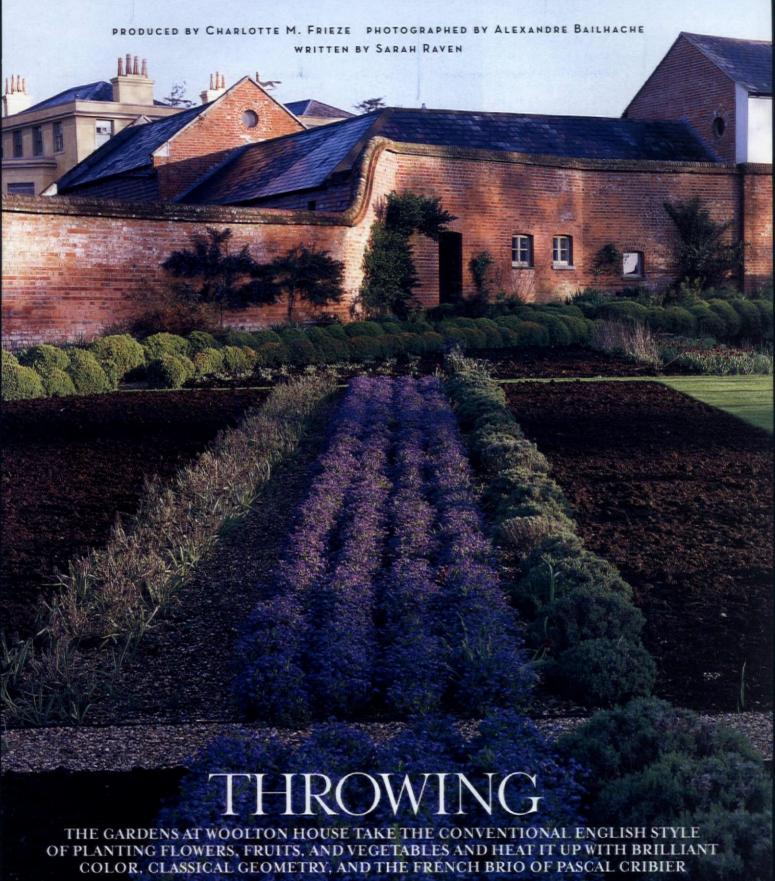


From left: Swan **TUB SPOUT** in 24k gold plate, \$1,130, from Sherle Wagner International. Memoirs Deco **HANDLE** in polished brass, \$413 for a set, by Meteorites **FACE POWDER BEADS**, \$42.50, both from Guerlain. Gold-plated bird **HANDLE**, \$4,325 for a set, from P. E. Guerin, NYC. Polished brass



From left: Calvin Klein glacier-glass CONTAINER WITH LID, \$50; filled with Sephora BATH SALTS, \$3.50. Italian glass SHELL with gold, \$850, Alan Moss, NYC. Idealcils EYELASH CURLER, \$10, Boyd's of Madison Avenue. Freestanding brass MIRROR, \$406, Czech & Speake, London. Gold-plated floral KNOBS, \$70 to \$120 each, P. E. Guerin, NYC. Borghesi beige TILE, from \$4, Mohawk Industries Inc. Polka-dot WALLPAPER, by Stark Wallcovering. Migration-pattern TILE BORDER, \$50 per tile, from the Canard Crackle Collection by Artistic Tile. Giardino STONE BORDER, \$67.50 per tile, Firenze series, Walker Zanger. Tazo green Tantrum TILE, \$3.50, Sonoma Tile Makers. Glossy glass TILE, \$35 per square foot, Chiaro series, Urban Archaeology. St. Julien Roman TUB SET, \$1,195, by Sigma for American Faucet & Coatings Corp. —PRODUCTION COORDINATOR: VIRGINIA TUPKER





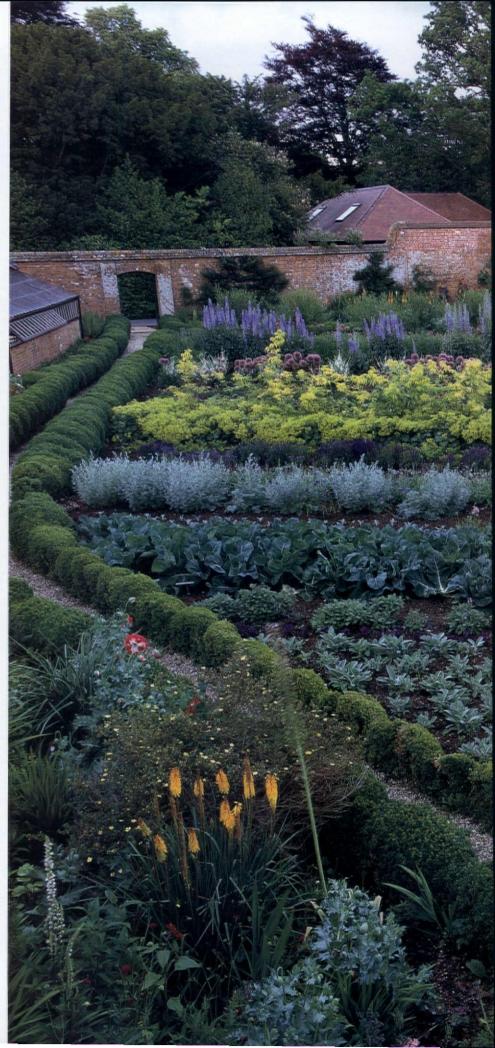
SPARKS

Cribier used a palette of silver, yellow, and green foliage in the Mondrian garden and surrounded it with boxwood. Spires of Delphinium 'Alice Artindale,' 'Faust,' and x belladonna 'Völkerfrieden' provide the lines of blue. The grass path leads to the greenhouse.

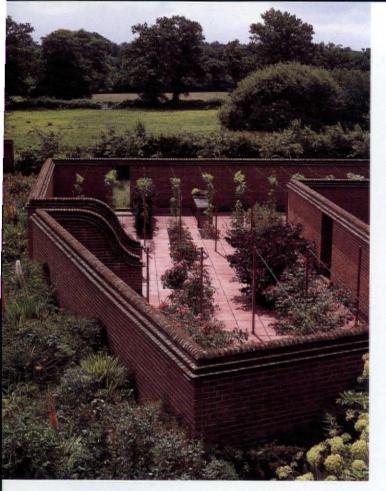
ull in to the drive of Woolton House and you might think you've arrived smack in the middle of the English gardening tradition: there is a walled garden, a formal pond, a landscaped park, and a large orchard. I have to confess, my heart sank a little at the prospect of pink and blue pastel delicacies and conventional herbaceous borders—in short, the exhausted end of what might have been, 30 years ago, something to write about.

But then the door opens and the owner, the driving force of the Woolton garden, emerges exuding elegance, warmth, and energy. And of course the place reflects her. She and her husband, an internationally acclaimed architect, currently live in the estate's Edwardian lodge, as the main house is being rebuilt after a fire. The lodge has a great, modern elegance to it. The carpets are pale, the furniture is white, and there is no clutter. Her abstract landscapes painted in intense, warm colors hang in the dining room, and one wall in the sitting room is filled with a piece by Tatsuo Miyajima consisting of 49 black digital screens with red and green numbers that turn as you watch.

The couple bought the estate ten years ago. The house was in poor condition and the garden was a desert. To get it ready to sell, the previous owner had tidied up the weedy mess by using Roundup. Every rose, every shrub, every herbaceous plant had been zapped. All that the couple could see with any clarity







was the romantic English parkland surrounding the house, with its wonderful century-old specimen trees.

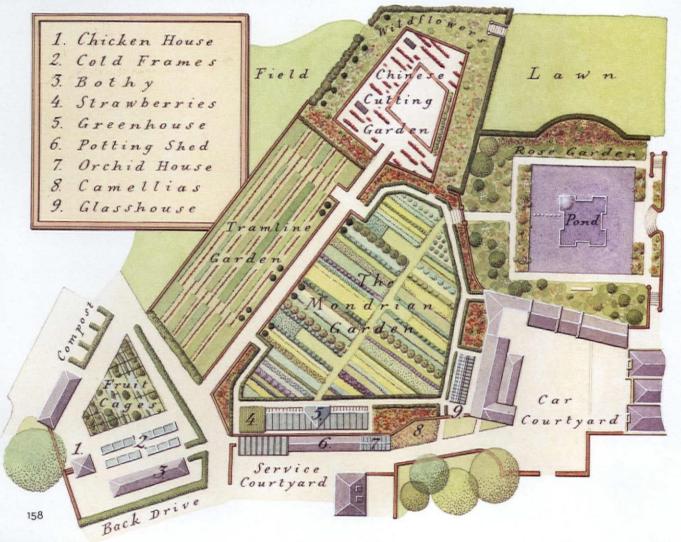
The husband immediately set about redesigning the house, and the wife the garden. English designers and gardeners were lining up to help, but none of the ideas they suggested was quite right. The proposed colors were too soft, the layouts too conventional. On a visit to Paris, the wife was poking about in her favorite bookshop, Maison Rustique, in *rue* Jacob, when she found some photographs of the work of a young French designer, Pascal Cribier. He has since become famous as the redesigner of the Tuileries gardens, but ten years ago he was 41 and barely known outside France.

Like the owner herself, Cribier loves color, and it became the

predominant theme for the garden at Woolton. Within the four-acre walled garden, they created a smaller walled area devoted to flowers, filled with hot pinks and burning reds, with splashes of chartreuse. The brilliant plants are set against bright redbrick walls and coral pink pavers, with pillar-box-red frames for the grapes.

In the main walled garden, that vibrancy continues. The outer beds are a mix of oranges, reds, and pinks. Everything is planted in ones and twos, Pink, orange, and red flowers and foliage dominate the Chinese cutting garden, this page. Included are Cercis canadensis 'Forest Pansy'; Rosa 'The Prince' and 'Gertrude Jekyll'; and Alstroemeria 'Tessa' and 'Red Beauty.'

Flowers in hot colors surround the Mondrian garden, opposite page.







In autumn, pumpkins and ornamental gourds, including Cucurbita maxima 'Turks Turban,' this page, spill over the edges of the Tramline garden onto the path.

Lines of red flowers—tulips in spring, geum in summer, 'Romeo' dahlias in fall—flow among rows of apple

'Romeo' dahlias in fall—flow among rows of apple trees espaliered on frames, 'Bedfordshire Champion' onions, strawberries, zucchini, and squash in the Tramline garden, opposite page. not the conventional fives. The idea is pointillist and much more dynamic than the "drift" structure of most English planting. "I want it like a fireworks display," the owner says.

The center of the walled garden, the vegetable area, is arranged in Mondrian-like blocks of acid green, standard green, and silver green, bordered by a line of small, clipped or pollarded trees, their leaf color chosen to match the plants in the block. But it's the northern side of the walled area that is Woolton's triumph: grass paths, edged in metal to reduce maintenance, run the full length of the garden between wide-growing beds. These house





brassicas, onions, leeks, potatoes, strawberries, zucchini, and squash. It is a traditional recipe, but with a twist. Each area of grass is lined with a stripe of brilliant red. That is the essence of what is going on here: the traditional has been sharpened with a clean, cool, bright, modern elegance.

The pond garden is another stroke of genius by Cribier. You enter a courtyard enclosed by walls on two sides, a barn, and a hedge. The heart of this courtyard is a small pond edged in stone. Its scale was all wrong, but rather than ripping it out, Cribier suggested enclosing it in another pond, three times the

size. The effect is utterly confident and convincing. The stone rim of the first pond stands four inches above the second, with the water lapping gently over at four symmetrical furrows into the wide expanse of water around it.

There is a fusion here of English plantsmanship and French classical authority, a flowery, bold form of gardening that I find exhilarating. I long to go back. The owner, Cribier, and gardeners Ian and Yvonne Morgan have each played their part. Brio, fearlessness, and a sense of style are the indispensable ingredients of a brilliant and beautiful garden. Woolton has them all.

# GROUND RULES THESE BOLD, INNOVATIVE DESIGN IDEAS CAN BE CUSTOMIZED



BY DEBORAH NEEDLEMAN

While the garden at Woolton is done on a grand scale, some aspects of its striking, color-conscious design can be adapted for more modest-sized plots. Proper planning is the key to a harmoniously composed vegetable patch, opposite page, and to a continually blooming stripe of flowers, top left. If you take the time to consider the color, texture, and growth habit of the varieties you want to use, you can create a rich visual feast of your own.

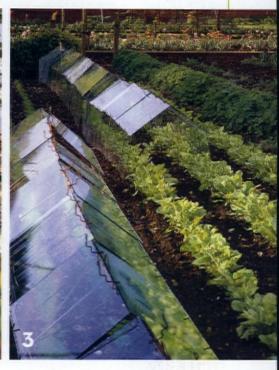
#### ONE DRAMATIC ACT

In the Tramline garden, left, a succession of brilliant red flowers in skinny stripes running through the lawn creates an abstract composition that breaks up and enlivens the typical path/bed duo. Even when the beds are empty, the stripes ensure a continuous play of shape, texture, and color: bright, flowery lines contrast with the neat, dark rectangles of dirt and with the soft emerald carpets of grass.

- ONE COLOR Stripes, waves, or blocks of one color can be used to liven up a staid section of garden. Try a spiral of blooms in a flat grassy area or a checkerboard of blossoming squares offset by other plants.
- BLOOM PLAN Woolton has a succession of reds (tulips in spring, geum in summer, and dahlias in fall), but any color works as long as you plan a seasonal rotation. Naturalizing bulbs, perennials, and self-seeding annuals (or ones that can be direct-sowed) will keep labor to a minimum.

In the Tramline garden, Geum 'Mrs. J. Bradshaw' cuts through grass paths, intersecting a bed of onions and running alongside the pumpkins. The perennial geums bloom on top of the naturalizing tulip bulbs, but the dahlias that follow are replanted each year. 2 The pink 'Golden Hornet' crab apples in the vegetable garden create a striking scene against the dark earth in spring. Their deep green leaves play a key role in the green section of the garden, and their yellow berries persist well into winter. Some lettuces in these rows are given a head start with heat-trapping cloches.



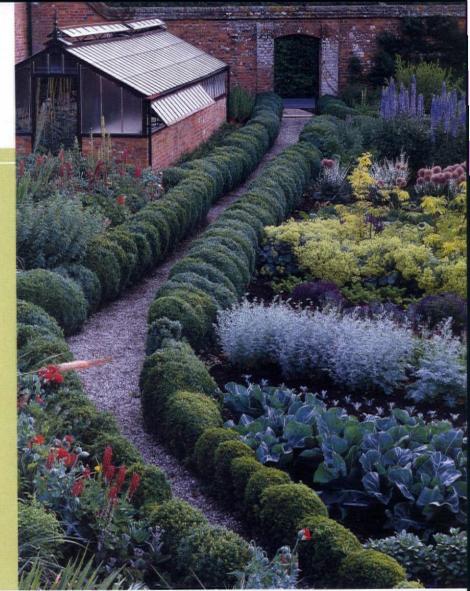


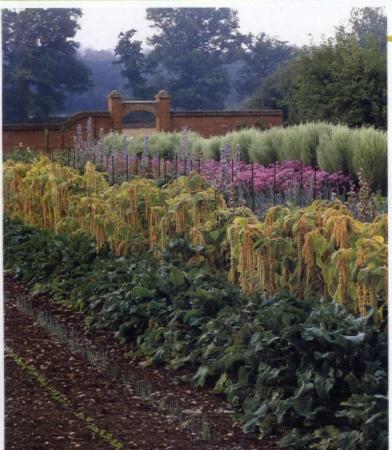
#### TO FIT YOUR GARDEN

#### **COLOR FIELDS**

The plant combinations in Woolton's huge walled Mondrian garden are painstakingly planned each year: faxes fly back and forth all winter between designer, homeowner, and gardener detailing plant lists and possible layouts.

- PLANNED PROGRESS At Woolton, 40-foot rows are organized into sections of varying shades of green (silver-greens, shown at right, greengreens, and yellow-greens). Each section is arranged to maximize differences in texture and to highlight subtle color contrasts. Gardeners who toss in leftover packets of seed at the last minute will need discipline to achieve this kind of harmony: nothing here is left to chance.
- SLIVER OF SILVER Note the contrasting forms of the silver section, right: the silver-blue foliage (cabbage, nepeta, and lamb's ears), the subtle drama of the similar tones, and the golden and blue accents (Allium moly, lady's mantle, blue veronica, delphinium). The allium, at rear, has been deemed "mauve" and will not be back next year.





#### TRY THIS AT HOME

Whether you want a bold statement, as in the Tramline garden, opposite page, top, or a potager that's pretty as a picture, this page, the key is in your choice of plants. Here are some tips.

- A LINE OF ANOTHER COLOR For a succession of white flowers, try Narcissus 'Thalia' for spring; Ammi majus or white foxgloves for summer; and white cleome for fall. For hot pink: 'China Pink' or 'Mariette' tulips, followed by Gladiolus communis subsp. byzantinus, followed by pink cosmos. For fiery orange: 'Prinses Irene' tulips, followed by orange California poppies, followed by orange zinnias.
- A BLOCK OF MANY SHAPES Even if you forget about considerations of color and simply focus your attention on varying the shapes of plants grown in rows, you will achieve a dynamic composition. Consider the forms at left: heart-shaped leaves of beans, long tassels of amaranthus, spires of delphinium, buttonlike ageratum, and fluffy balls of Kochia 'Childsii.'

Set design

We've always been fond of frightfully good yarns about wizards and werewolves. But when Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban opens next month, it will be the decor that keeps us on the edge of our seats. (We live for design, after all.) Let others gape at the feats of magic and demon warfare; we'll be ogling the handcarved Elizabethan beds, unicorn tapestries, and Gothic grandeur of the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, which straddles a cliff overlooking a Scottish loch.

The architect of Potter's world is Stuart Craig, an Oscar-winning English production designer, who also created the set for the first two movies in the series, along with those for films such as The English Patient and Gandhi. For this Potter movie, which was shot mostly on a soundstage, Craig's mandate was to create the appearance of a world that has existed forever. Look carefully and you'll spot the pieces of his gargantuan jigsaw puzzle: a cloister copied from one at Oxford or Cambridge, a flying buttress from a major English cathedral. "There is an intimidating aspect to Hogwarts," Craig admits. Yet while the latest Potter set seems to have upped the ante on labyrinthine corridors and vaulted ceilings, it's the well-used charm of the students' common rooms-fires roaring, Oriental rugs worn to the weft-that draws us in. These antiques-filled spaces were inspired by the shabby chic of English boarding schools, an effect the set decorators accomplished by rubbing furniture and fabrics with sandpaper and wax. Add to these such irresistible new sets as an astronomy classroom filled with planetary spheres and the rustic but well-appointed Shrieking Shack, and Craig has performed a real magic trick: creating a universe on-screen even more spirited than the one we imagined in reading the books.

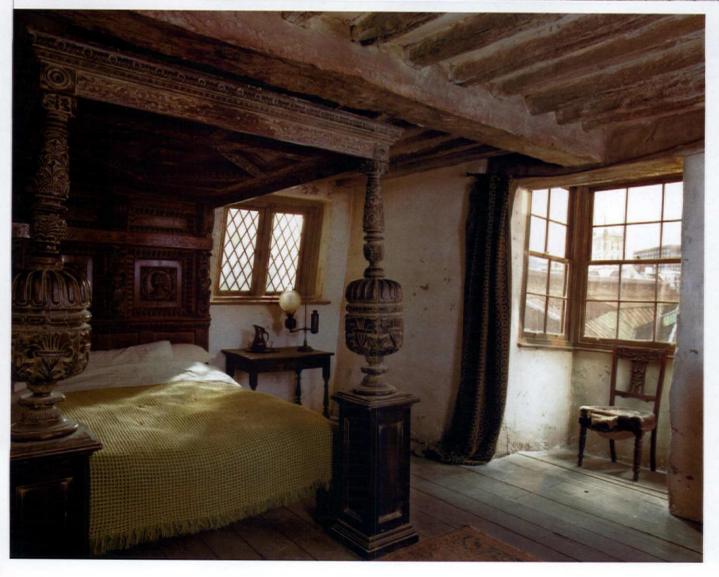
The Gryffindor common room at the Hogwarts School, where Harry Potter and his friends relax and do homework, features well-worn red velvet slipcovers and unicorn tapestries copied from the ones at the Cluny Museum in Paris.

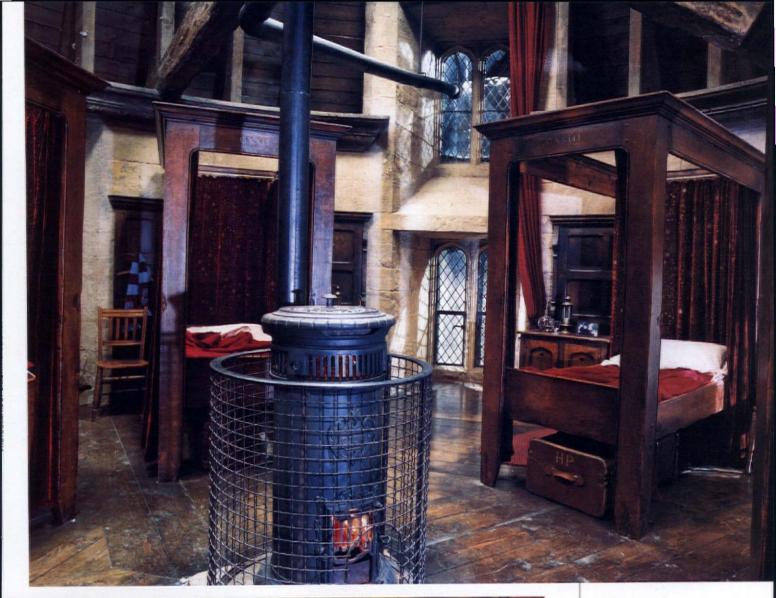


The Shrieking Shack is a remote mountainside retreat built for a Hogwarts faculty member, Professor Lupin (David Thewlis), who has the unfortunate habit of turning into a werewolf. Though the building was originally well furnished with a piano, a fireplace, and mirrors, it has been ravaged by the teacher's many visits.

Escaping from a summer with his dreary relatives, Harry spends the night in this stylishly whitewashed bedroom at the Leaky Cauldron wizards' pub. The carved bed, a Tudor antique, was temporarily distressed with waxes and dust.









The dormitory, with the trademark red decor of the House of Gryffindor, was created as a sanctuary for Potter, the orphaned young wizard with no other real home. The canopy beds are boxy but elegant, and arranged in a circle. Each one has a faded gilt number and star-and-moon draperies.

The movie's prop makers turned to astronomy reference books to create the planetary models in Hogwarts's new astronomy classroom. The room, with its multiple arches and balconies, is where Lupin, the dark-arts teacher, instructs Potter on dealing with his demons.

## SOURCES where to buy it

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crystal sconces from Remains, remains.com. Venetian plaster wall finish by Fresco Decorative Painting, NYC. 212-966-0676. Pages 114-115, Richard Ginori. 800-215-1193. Sofa in Great Plains Velvet Etchings. Narcissus linen rug by Town & Country Flooring, 212-679-0312. Burnished bronze bowl, Calvin Klein Home. 877-256-7373. Champagne cooler and scrapbooks, Martha Stewart. marthastewart.com. Vintage gilded silver compotes, Ostafin Design for Bergdorf Goodman. Dark glass bowl from Muriel Grateau, Paris. 011-33-1-4020-9030. Edward Wormley server, Wyeth, NYC. 212-243-3661. Pages 116-117, Bisley. bisleyusa.com. Joseph Richter, NYC. 212-755-6094. Emeco. emeco.net. Tara faucet, Dornbracht. dornbracht.com. Tub surround in Stone Source limestone. stonesource.com. Frette sheets. frette.com. Vases from Alan Moss. Limed oak side tables by Robert Strahan. 718-349-3570. Pages 118-119, Pell Artifex, NYC. 212-563-9656. Alkco. alkco.com. Bosch range boschappliances.com. Dining table, Knoll. knoll.com. Cab chairs, Cassina, NYC. 212-245-2121. Thermador double oven, thermador.com. Refrigerator and wine storage, Sub-Zero. subzero.com. Miele dishwasher. miele.com. Wineglasses, Juliska. Gold bud vases, Seguso Viro. segusoviro.com. Mixer, kitchenaid.com. Espresso maker, francisfrancis.com. Blender, Waring, waringproducts.com.

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Page 22, books, tools, and coffee grinder, Francesco Mosto. Television, courtesy Sharp. Page 23, Beard/Williams, courtesy Williams Sonoma Photo Archive. Pots, tools, and beets, Francesco Mosto. CORRECTION

March 2004, page 39, Adler chandelier, \$470.

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VOLUME 173, NO. 5. HOUSE AND GARDEN (ISSN 1087-9528) is published monthly by The Condé Nast Publications, which is a division of Advance Magazine Publishers Inc. PRINCIPAL OFFICE: The Condé Nast Building, 4 Times Square, New York, NY 10036.
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#### GROW/COOK/EAT

(Cont. from page 89)

#### YOUNG FAVA BEANS IN CREAM

This is one of my favorite ways of eating fava beans—soft, comforting, and delicious. I to 2 lbs. small fava beans 3/4 cup crème fraîche 6 slices smoked bacon or finely sliced pancetta I clove garlic, finely chopped I sprig fresh savory I Tbsp. chopped parsley Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Pick the beans young. If they are large, shell the beans and slip each bean out of its tough skin. Cook bacon until crisp. Pour cream into a shallow pan; add salt, garlic, and the savory, and bring to a boil. Add the beans, and boil, uncovered, for 5 minutes. When the beans are done—they should be tender but not falling apart—drain. Remove the savory. Add salt and pepper to taste, and sprinkle with cooked bacon and parsley.

Once my fava beans get big and leathery, I don't like eating them straight, just as they are. I turn them into a sort of lemony hummus, delicious piled onto crostini and eaten as a snack or first course with some salad leaves.

#### FAVA BEAN HUMMUS

21/4 cups large fava beans 3 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil Juice and zest of 1 lemon Sea salt and black pepper

#### CROSTINI

Fresh, good-quality white bread Extra-virgin olive oil I clove fresh garlic A few slithers of pecorino cheese

Boil the beans for 10 minutes or so, until tender. (If I have time, I squeeze them out of their skins: skinless beans make a smoother hummus.) Puree the beans with olive oil, lemon juice, zest, and plenty of salt and pepper.

Cut the bread in finger-thick slices and drizzle olive oil over it. Roast the bread on a medium-heated barbecue or griddle pan until it's brown and crispy. Lightly scrape one side of the bread with fresh garlic. Spread it with topping, and sprinkle with more olive oil and pecorino.

SEED SOURCES The Cutting Garden will offer a special seed package of 'Super Aquadulce,' 'Stereo,' and 'Red Epicure' fava beans to House & Garden readers for about \$15. o17-44-845-050-4848. thecuttinggarden.com. Some varieties are also available through territorial-seed.com and prseeds.ca.

#### **OPEN HOUSE**

(Cont. from page 136) readers, the final touch is a pair of Chinese export lamps that were bought for the first design and then revitalized with bluegreen paper shades.

In a family of foodies, the dining room has special meaning, and the honey-toned light there encourages lingering over meals. The client's preference for striped rugs reappears in Baratta's diamond-on-diamond rug, which repeats the colors of the rugs in the living room. Three similar sets of Vienna Secessionist dining chairs have seats in the same camel leather used in the living room.

The master bedroom achieves clarity in the mix: an iconic Knoll pedestal chair, a refined Arts and Crafts chair, a sofa, and dull-nickel lamps reincarnated from the home's past lives. New small-paned windows provide a homey touch, an unexpected benefit of making all the apartment windows conform to the guidelines for a historic district protected by the city's Landmarks Preservation Commission.

Homevness and simplicity are often complex, of course, as in the clean-lined custom Arts and Crafts-inspired bed. The design involves four planes, each separated by an eighth-inch recess. "It was tricky-not an easy piece to make," says Thomas Newman, a cabinetmaker in Hoboken, New Jersey, and another of Diamond and Baratta's skilled resources. "You couldn't grab just any old boards; they had to be from one log." Newman milled and dried the wood from a wild black cherry tree that he had selected. "Wood has to have just the right grain for a particular use," he says. "It's a subtle thing. Two hundred years ago, this is how things were made. There was an aesthetic decision every step of the way."

The same can be said about the process of making the home simple, simpler, simplest. The client "has the same taste she has always had," Diamond says. "She has always liked simple. Now everybody uses the same words: clean, fresh, young, timeless. Everybody wants blue. Everybody wants wood. She was ahead of it."

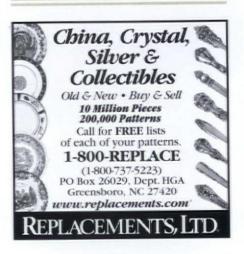
Elizabeth Blish Hughes is a writer based in San Francisco and New York.

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# The Testy Tastemaker

"SMART" HOUSES, DUMB CHOICES; TOMORROW'S HIGH-TECH TOILETS; PLUS, WATER MUSIC IN LAS VEGAS, FROM THE BELLAGIO TO THE LIBERACE MUSEUM





nd the decorator said, "Let there be light!" But there was no light. "Abracadabra! Hocus-pocus!" Still no light. It was an awkward moment. The decorator in question had promised that my tour of his clients' Beverly Hills estate would culminate with a dazzling coup de théâtre. At the touch of a button, the screening room, a dark, velvet-swagged cloister, would metamorphose into a trellised solarium set in an opulent garden. "It'll blow your mind," he assured me. Alas, my mind was not to be blown that day. My host simply could not activate the room's "state-of-the-art" control system. Cajoling, coddling, and cursing all failed to produce the miraculous environmental transformation. The screening room had fallen into darkness, and it wouldn't light up.

An advanced degree in computer science now seems to be a prerequisite for operating the increasingly complex systems that govern climate, audiovisuals, security, and even coffee making in so-called smart houses. I can't count the number of times I've seen a decorator struggle in vain to coax an ingeniously concealed flat-screen television out of hibernation, or to persuade a special water feature to spout and gurgle on command. It's always amusing and somewhat sad to watch technology wrest control from notorious control freaks.

I'm sure that many homeowners are perfectly adept at handling space-age gizmos, but as for me, I'll take an old-fashioned toggle switch over a *Star Trek* touch screen any day. Until voice-activated technology becomes foolproof and affordable, the most sophisticated tool I want in my house is the Clapper.

WHILE I'M ON the subject of technophobia, I'd like to address a delicate issue: the Toilet of the Future. No, gentle reader, I'm not talking about an obsolete World's Fair exhibition. In the toilet world, the future is now—and it scares me.

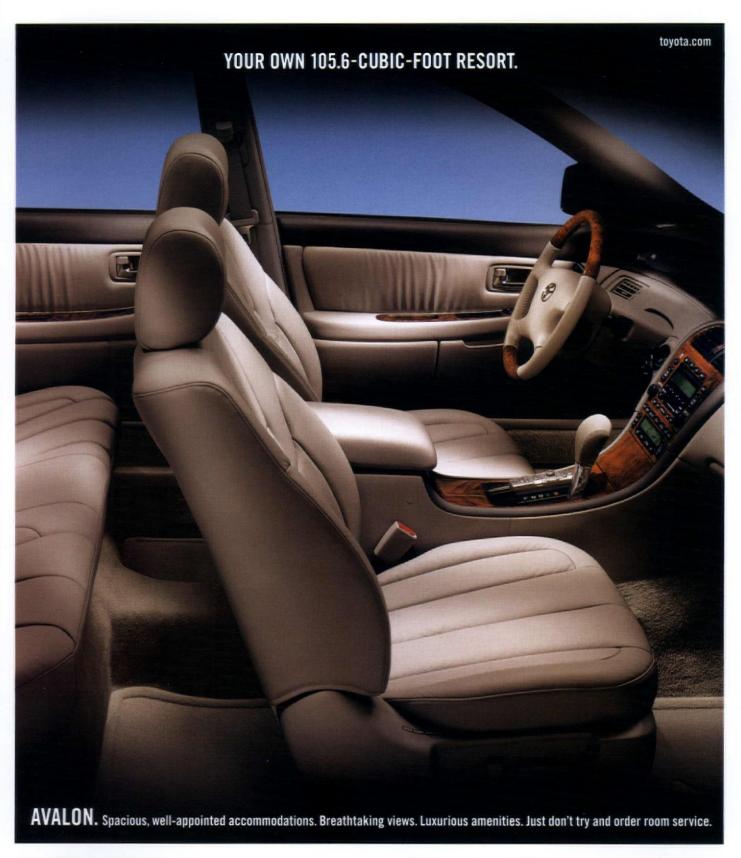
Japanese manufacturers such as Toto and Matsushita keep raising the bar on what constitutes "cutting-edge" toilet technology. Heated seats and built-in bidets are yesterday's news. Today's smart toilet has a lid that flips open when a person approaches. It also plays music and deodorizes the air. These all sound like reasonable amenities (although I do have some concerns about an ill-timed, accidental bidet conversion). What frightens me is the next wave of toilet reform.

In The New York Times, a Matsushita engineer was quoted as saying, "We are going to install in a toilet devices to measure weight, fat, blood pressure, heartbeat, urine sugar, albumin, and blood in urine." He explained that such measurements could be sent directly from the toilet to a doctor via the Internet.

I hope my ACLU membership card is up-to-date, because the idea of Big Brother monitoring my bathroom business fills me with dread. A crafty opposition tastemaker, for instance, might try to undermine my absolute authority by exposing the primary constituents of my diet—Sausage Hot Pockets and Yodels. My more ruthless enemies could conceivably manipulate stolen data to portray me as a homeless crack addict who sleeps on the streets in a vintage Louis Vuitton trunk.

■ A RECENT EXCURSION to Las Vegas taught me to appreciate the discrete charms of both high tech and low tech. My two favorite Vegas attractions occupy opposite poles of the technology spectrum. First, I was profoundly enchanted by the water ballet spectaculars at the posh Bellagio. Over a thousand computerized jet sprays and lighting effects are precisely choreographed to accompany music by everyone from Frank Sinatra to Aaron Copland. The show is free and genuinely fabulous.

Across town, the Liberace Museum bewitches visitors without recourse to flashy interactive displays. The museum occupies two small buildings at opposite ends of a bleak strip mall—one gallery is devoted to Mr. Showmanship's pianos and cars, the other to his deliciously outré outfits. The "Walk of Honors" that connects the two wings leads visitors past boarded-up storefronts, a raunchy honky-tonk, and a shop that sells discount bulk cigarettes. Who could ask for anything more?







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