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The pattern of the stylized rug and of honey in the formal living room provided inspiration for many other elements in the room. Barry Ottuck of Imperial Doors in Springfield created the one-of-a-kind iron stair railing with designs help from Natalie Kline in Tali's office, and the artwork above the stairs was commissioned from Peter Gruppado of Tommy Farrell Custom Furniture and Cabinets in Little Rock. **(Facing page)** The Thomas Pheasant dashboard mirror adds a classic and fun touch to the home's decor.



Past and Future Present

A Fayetteville family enlists a Little Rock-based interior designer to create a home that will easily grow with them for years to come



left In the kitchen, chocolate-brown stained maple cabinetry lends a rich background to the stainless steel appliances and light-colored ceiling and backsplash. **Facing page** In the informal living room, solid yellow pillows pop against the patterned sofa, while a large abstract work of art streamlines the room.

Tabi Fairley of T. Lamarr Interiors and Fine Art in Little Rock always enjoys working on a house from the ground up, and it's an added bonus to work with friends. "I've known the wife for more than 15 years, since we were sorority sisters at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, and I was really excited to work on a project with such a close friend," Tabi says. "She e-mailed me a house plan she and her husband were considering, and I began consulting with them on the space and layout of the plan, and then the construction and furnishing."

For the young Fayetteville family with two small children, longevity and function were key. "They wanted this house to last them for years to come," Tabi says. "It needed to meet their needs now through the kids' teenage years and even transition into an empty nest." Aesthetics were equally important, and Tabi found that she and the homeowners shared favorite designers. "The wife loves the work of interior designers such as Sills and Hunniford and Kelly Wearstler. These happened to be my favorites, so I immediately knew what she was looking for," Tabi says. "Another major influence was my sorority sister's grandparents' home, built in the mid 1960s. It's a source of comfort for her, and we spent time there discussing exactly what she loved about the home. We discovered the built-in cabinets, a large custom sculptured rug in the den and many of the original, retro colors and architectural details, including coves, intricate moulding and concealed drapery and lighting, all combined to make her feel at ease."





Below Opulent golds and metallic furnishings add a retro touch to the master bedroom, while bright turquoise draperies made by Mountain Custom Draperies lighten the space. **Facing page, clockwise from top left** Tobi established a light-hearted color palette of violet and aqua for the oversized circles and stripes in the couple's eight-year-old daughter's room. Perfect for everyone, the family room boasts bright colors and kid-friendly furnishings, including the green-apple colored sofa, oversized ottoman and glimmering curtains. For the five-year-old son, stripes dominated the bedding and painted wall borders, while the red leather headboard and storage ottoman bring everything together.



With so many significant pieces of inspiration, Tobie set out to design a home with a neutral color palette on the walls and in the furniture, and infused color through accent furnishings, artwork and drapery. "I wanted the home to feel young and not too serious, but also sophisticated at the same time," she says. To incorporate many of the details from the grandparents' home, Tobie designed custom details in the moulding and cabinetry with help from White River Hardwoods in Fayetteville and Tom Greenway of Verser Cabinets in Rogers, and she continued the cabinetry design into the family room with a matching entertainment center made from chocolate-brown stained maple and African jatoba veneers with European-style doors.

With the bones of the home complete, Tobie turned to the furnishings and accessories as an opportunity to incorporate touches of the homeowners' favorite designers. In the formal living room, the New River Artisans rug was modeled after the Raoul Textiles fabric on the custom chaise lounge, and the Thomas Pheasant starburst mirror adds a classic and fun touch. "I also adore the Christopher Spitzmuller chartreuse lamps," Tobie says. "He is the king of lamps in my opinion." A starburst rug from Angela Adams, Kelly Wearstler fabric by Schumacher on the sectional and an Eames lounge chair—another favorite piece of Tobie's—combine with the retro touches for a truly one-of-a-kind home. "The homeowners' tastes and mine are so closely paralleled that this house has been a dream job for me," she says. *