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HOME

DESIGN & DECOR®

The COLOR *Issue*

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PERFECT PATTERN

With the exception of the vintage shell mirror, which was used as inspiration for the room's design, Hammett started from scratch in the living room. The designer recovered a pair of slipper chairs she found at Sleepy Poet with a stunning Brunschwig & Fils floral fabric, complementing the Lee Jofa blue velvet sofas with Samuel & Sons Greek key trim.



DESIGNER
ANNE PEARSON
HAMMETT
COUPLES
PATTERN WITH
COLOR TO
GIVE A MYERS
PARK HOME
A TIMELESS
AND STYLISH
INTERIOR.

TEXT BY
BLAKE MILLER
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AL AND ALLISON WELCH WERE AT A CROSSROADS. Either they would renovate and expand the Elizabeth bungalow where they'd lived for the last nine years, or they would find something that was a bit larger and could easily accommodate their growing family. Though the couple loved the character and charm of their home, they decided that it was just too tiny and too much of a hassle to renovate with two young children at the time. So they began their search for a new home. "I stumbled upon this neighborhood in Myers Park one day when I got lost," says the mother of two. "It was the cutest little hidden neighborhood. I remember going home and telling my husband about it. I said that if we're going to move, let's

put some feelers out and see if there might be some homes available in that neighborhood."

The Welches eventually found a home that fit their must-have list. "We loved the floorplan, and it had a lot of character," Welch says. "It was very light, bright, and happy, with lots of windows off the back. It had a very warm feeling to it." Though the home went under contract with another buyer, the sale eventually fell through, and the Welches quickly scooped it up.

While Welch is a fashion stylist, she admittedly knew that she needed the help of an interior designer for their new home. "I'm one of those people who can find things that are stylish for the home or that I love, but as far as

Pearson started with the homeowners' existing dining table, chairs, and antique French soapstone cabinet, then added pattern and color. The simple Belgian linen panels with Samuel & Sons velvet fretwork trim and the Schumacher grasscloth wallcovering set the tone for the room.

OPPOSITE: To dress up the foyer, Hammett added a Kravet grasscloth and a vintage Hickory Chair bench covered in a Schumacher fabric with Colefax and Fowler silk trim. Watercolors by Charleston artist Ment Nelson are surrounded by oyster plates from Patrician Antiques in Florence, South Carolina.



Welch's home office was the first room Hammett designed. She was adamant about using the Schumacher wallpaper, which inspired the rest of the room's design. A black Phillips Scott desk pairs well with a pair of slipper chairs in an Ikat Lee Jofa print with Samuel & Sons fringe.





TOP: Pearson chose a subtle Farrow & Ball wallpaper for the backdrop in the breakfast nook, which features artwork by artist and gallery owner Marissa Vogl. She then added the custom dining table by Tritter Feefer and complementary dining chairs that Welch purchased in Atlanta.

BOTTOM: Pearson gave the powder room an uplift with a custom paint job, Waterworks fixtures, and Addison Weeks hardware on the vanity. The Schumacher wallpaper serves as the perfect backdrop for the framed artwork by Sally King Benedict. The mirror is by Made Goods, and the light fixture is Circa Lighting.

executing that in a cohesive interior design, I'm just not good at it," Welch laughs. "I love picking out fabrics, and I definitely think my personal style spills over into my house."

That timeless, eclectic style is what designer Anne Pearson Hammett drew inspiration from when designing the interiors of the Welches' Myers Park home. "Allison is so stylish, and the home just needed decorating to reflect her personality and taste," Hammett says. "She loves color and pattern, so I knew that would play a huge role in the home." In fact, pattern and color were the springboards for the first room in the home that Hammett took on. "There were certain areas of the home that I had strong opinions on and things I'd been dreaming about," Welch says. "My office space, which is one of my favorite rooms in the house, was one of those spaces. I knew I wanted that Schumacher wallpaper in there." Hammett coupled the wallpaper with two more of Welch's requests: a vintage-esque black desk, which she found from Phillips Scott, and two streamlined slipper chairs, which she swathed in an Ikat Lee Jofa fabric. The addition of the Samuel & Sons fringe and the skirts on the chairs are just the attention to detail that Welch was looking for.

If color and pattern were a guiding inspiration for the home's interior design, Welch's intuitive fashion sense was also of great influence for Hammett. "The driving factors in the home's overall design were things that spoke to her," the designer says. "She has such a great eye for things, and she'd bring them to me and say, 'I really love this and want to make it work.' And that really helped inspire me." Such was the case with the vintage shell mirror that Welch purchased from a friend's estate sale in South Carolina. "I fell in love with that mirror and brought it to Anne, and I'm sure she thought I was crazy!" Welch laughs.



Pearson gave the kitchen a minor facelift by painting the cabinets and adding new soapstone countertops, hardware, plumbing, and backplash. She then recovered the Elizabeth Eakins bar stool fabric in a laminate to make it washable and kid-friendly. **OPPOSITE:** The Welches wanted a warm and casual family room where they could all gather together comfortably. Pearson reupholstered the pair of club chairs in an aqua Pindler fabric and the sofa in a Crypton Thibaut fabric, both of which were the springboard for the room's design. The Roman shade is a linen by Pindler, complemented with a Lee Jofa trim.



“But I just loved it so much.” That mirror hangs prominently in the living room and informed much of the design for that space, as well.

Similarly, Welch’s love of original art was a driving force for Hammett’s choices. “My mom was an artist, so I grew up around art and collect it,” says Welch, whose personal collection includes pieces by many Southern artists, including Atlanta artist Sally King Benedict, Charlotte artist Nellie Ashford, and Charleston artists Laurie Meyer and Marissa

Vogl. “Allison would find art she loved, and we’d find a way to make it work every time,” Hammett says. “There were things Allison would push me on design-wise, and vice versa. It’s been one of those collaborative projects that worked out beautifully. Every room has turned out so pretty.”

The rapport and friendship between the two women continue to extend beyond the project. “I so loved what Anne did in our home that before a dinner party, I’ll have



her come over and help me style things and freshen things up,” Welch says. “She’s so good at finding all of these little hidden treasures that just bring a space to life.” Such was the case in the family room, where large built-in shelving flanks both sides of the fireplace. Having very few things with which to accessorize and style the shelves, Hammett scoured places such as Sleepy Poet and Hamilton-Stuart for antiques and vintage finds, culling just the right pieces to create a carefully curated collection that looks as though it’s

been gathered over time. “Allison doesn’t want her home to feel staged,” Hammett says. “She doesn’t want things to look perfect. She likes things with the sheen knocked off them.” The result is a home that exudes style matched with comfort that feels happy and fun.

“Every time I walk into my home, I love it so much,” Welch says. “I love it all. I love that it’s a mix of different things Anne’s found and I’ve found. I love how pretty and fun it is but also how it just works for our family.” ♦