

THE LOOK:



SIMPLE LUXURY

with claudia leah

BETWEEN the heavy, dark predictability of traditional décor and the bold, edgy surprises that mark contemporary style, lays the elegant, enduring, comfortable, and classic realm of transitional design. This award-winning bedroom is a wonderful example of how versatile transitional décor can be.

After working with my clients to select fixtures, finishes, and colors for the rest of their newly constructed home, the husband told me, "I really want my wife to have the bedroom of her dreams." My goal was to transform the long, narrow space into a soothing, peaceful room with a glamorous touch. Transitional décor appeals to both genders, and the approach works well for properties of any size. The elements are clean and colors are neutral, making the most of metal, glass, and light-colored or painted wood, with pieces that are medium in scale.

In this elongated master bedroom, I introduced gentle curves via the sunburst mirror, the chandelier, the patterned bedding, and slightly convex bow-front nightstands. Airy, free-swinging glass discs dangle from the rectangular centers of the bedside lamps. A custom designed wall treatment enhances the headboard wall. Using handmade wallpaper, I created eight identical panels and framed them in silver. The sunburst mirror on the opposite wall echoes

the pattern in the bedding. Remember that patterns in transitional décor are not frilly; geometrics work well.

The hand scraped maple floors add just the right touch of dark wood to ground the rest of the room. The man-made fiber area rug by Candice Olsen stands up to traffic (and to cats!), yet it is shaggy and soft and yummy - your feet just disappear into it!

I also chose floor-to-ceiling faux silk draperies with a tone-on-tone appliqué and hung them from smooth metal rods. Murano Glass finials add a bit of bling. In combination with the functional draperies, Hunter Douglas Duettes® Pirouettes® window shades with total blackout ability provide the ultimate in privacy. The result is the clean, unadorned look typical of transitional décor. Windows in the transitional style usually feature Roman shades or woven wood blinds. I opted for practical luxury with this window-covering duo.

(ABOVE) Shimmering pillows propped against the pearlized custom upholstered headboard with silver nail head trim invite luxurious lounging with their velvety textures in a room with a soft gray-blue palette. A panel of national journalists and more than 25,000 online voters agreed the transitional décor made this a dreamy bedroom, choosing the design as a winner in Decorating Den's 31st International Dream Room competition.

This chrome and glass tube chandelier w/ LED lighting feels like a star in the night sky. It provides an abundance of illumination that can be harnessed by a dimmer switch.

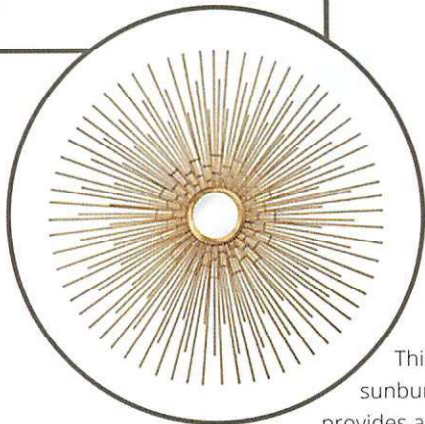


The elegant legs and pattern on this side table bring together elements of the traditional and contemporary, which is the basis for this design style.



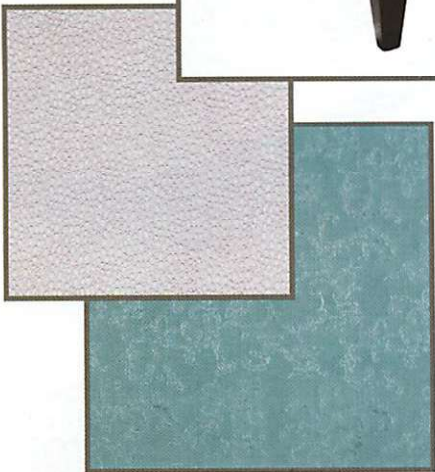
Acrylic glass blocks on a gold appliqué base serve up clear lines with just the right amount of shine to appeal to both genders.

This armchair is a wonderful example of transitional décor. Clean lines, sleek legs, neutral colored ultra suede fabric and nail head trim all come together to create a piece that is traditional and modern.



This delicate sunburst mirror provides a welcome balance to all the rectangles on the opposite headboard wall. Its golden rays will have you see the sunrise even with the draperies still drawn.

Fabrics used for a transitional room or home are usually enhanced by tonal patterns and appliques, giving the material depth and sheen that mirrors the glamour of this look.



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