

Residential Redesign: Dallas Family's Fabulous 3 Room Re-Do

A Girl's Dream Room Realized

Eight-year old Rachel Nguyen didn't know exactly what she wanted her new room to look like, but she did know how she wanted it to feel.....grown up yet girly mixed with a little sass! The designer for the Nguyen family, Elaine Williamson of Elaine Williamson Designs (www.ElaineWilliamsonDesigns.com), made it her mission to create a room that would exactly match Rachel's personality and vision for the space!

First in line were practical matters. Because Rachel suffers from severe allergies, the carpeting was removed and replaced with white oak hardwood floors stained a deep espresso color. To brighten the room, Elaine next chose a soft lavender color for the walls. The wall behind the cream colored tufted headboard was also accented by a deeper lavender damask stencil that added depth and visual interest. In a framed out area placed behind the headboard, a harlequin pattern was formed with cream colored cording set off at each intersection with square crystals. Around an antique crystal chandelier, striking patterns of the deeper colored damask were applied once again.

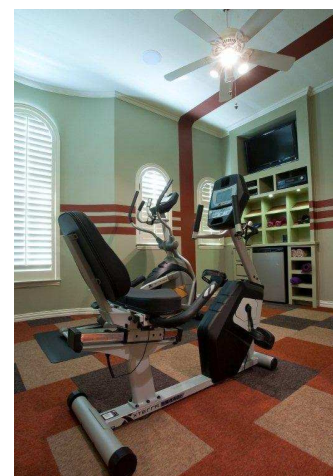


Now the stage was set for the furnishings. To keep the room from getting too serious, light green paint was chosen to overhaul the existing bedside tables that, before, were a light pickled wood finish. A "washed out" shabby chic style bedding was added along with white sheers adorned with bright green and zebra ribbons as tiebacks. Bringing all of these great color elements together and adding a "tweenager" feel to the room was a boldly patterned 8x10 rug.

Always thrilled by surprises, Rachel did not want to see the room until it was complete, but did have one request...she wanted the design board created to strategize her new room styling to be placed somewhere in the room as art – a request designer Elaine Williamson was thrilled to accommodate for the whimsical appeal it would add to the space. The mom also had only one request, but of Rachel: to keep the room clean! To this day, Rachel is said to have so much pride in her new space that she hasn't had to be asked once to clean her room. Success!

A Fit-ting Space

At the same time Elaine Williamson's design team was working on Rachel's dream room, they also worked on a dream space for mom and dad - a home gym. Their oldest daughter had just left home for college and they wanted a room where they could work out and stay fit. Again, the carpet was removed and replaced with gym style flooring that would withstand the pounding of each machine to be used in the space. A built-in



desk was removed and replaced with a custom cabinet which now houses a plasma television, built-in iPod, slanted shelves for dumbbell storage, yoga mat storage and under cabinet refrigerator for hydration after a solid workout. A vintage green wall color was chosen accented by a burnt red strip starting at the baseboard and running across the ceiling. This feature adds an instant height to the room and increased the overall gym-like feel.

Lavish Living Room

The next room tackled by the design team was the formal living room. Although the clients are not formal in their everyday lifestyle, the husband tasked Elaine and her group with establishing a design that would suit the style of the home, which had previously been appointed with luxurious and intricate mouldings throughout. Elaine's inspiration piece for the room was the elegant secretary she had purchased and eventually placed front and center on the main wall. The design flowed from there. A flared arm sofa was selected and covered in a golden-neutral textured fabric. Custom vintage red velvet



pillows were added for additional depth of color. The coffee table is appointed with a leather stamped top for durability, as this would be the tabletop the family puzzles would be work on. European chairs were purchased for their grand design and reupholstered in vintage red velvet and textured raised silk. The rug, a hand cut scroll design, added the finishing touch to the overall design. The Ngyuens never thought they could feel at home in such a formal room, but have discovered a new place to read, visit with friends, puzzle and indeed live together as a family.