


DES MOINES

March 2011

HOMESTYLE

Kids' ROOMS

that can span the ages



New angles on **OTTOMANS**
Peek inside a **LAKESIDE** home



Tasteful and traditional



Bright blue and green – on the walls, window treatments, and rugs – remain ageless fabric and color selections. The crib is easily swapped for a bed once the Fletchers' son gets a little older.



Bridging those gaps – from baby to toddler to elementary school and beyond – can be an exercise in decorating frustration. It was a vexation that Amanda Fletcher was determined to avoid when finishing her son's bedroom and bathroom. With the foundation pieces – crib, bureau, chair, bedside table – in place, she collaborated with friend and interior decorator Amanda Reynal.

The result is a cheerful, fun space as well as a kid-appropriate bath in a classic Des Moines Tudor-style home that's guaranteed to transition easily from preschool through high school.

Personable palette

Reynal chose saturated colors that pop against the room's stained woodwork. The combination – boy-appropriate blue and green, for example – feels perfectly in step with the traditionally-styled home. "We wanted to avoid creating a dark room," says Reynal. "Amanda [Fletcher] has a really good sense of personal style, and she and I both love color."

Fabric skill

Reynal deftly works magic with fabrics, particularly classic window treatments; in this room they lend a welcome timelessness. Striped Roman shades tie together patterns and accents in the room, such as the rug. The choices make it easy to envision a time the Fletchers will redo the room with other furniture – a bed, a desk – but will be able to maintain the same fabrics.



In the bath, both countertop and tile floor stay true to the home's early 20th-century origins.



"I never encourage people to go nuts with children's rooms – it's never worth putting too much into it and you can make a beautiful room with very simple things," says Reynal.

Design layers

Fletcher loves all the accents and extras – a Moravian star hanging pendant light, coordinating pieces such as a tissue paper holder and wastebasket – that are equal parts masculine and cute, but

of an undetermined age. "It really pulls it all together, and I loved that Amanda [Reynal] was able to work with things I had but lend her experienced eye," says Fletcher.

A better bath

Fletcher worked with contractor Nelson Hawbaker to widen the tiny bath, enabling her to slide in a tub and double sink. Reynal added signature touches, including light fixtures and a valance. ♣



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