

MAY 2011

House Beautiful

designer
secrets!

the case for

NEUTRALS

forever

BLUE & WHITE

a brilliant

BLACK ROOM

and much, much more



10 TIPS

YOU *REALLY* NEED TO KNOW



\$4.50



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"This is a dirty buttercup yellow with a little green in it, a good tone-down color for all the chaos that comes with a kid's room. It's a neutral backdrop, so the child gets to bring in his own personality. The fabrics you choose will make it masculine or feminine, and they can change as the child gets older. I love the sculptural quality of those iron beds—grown-up enough to work when this transitions into a guest room."

KATIE RIDDER
FARROW & BALL
FARROW'S CREAM 67



"You want to start with something they won't outgrow in three years, like this strong, clear, confident blue. When they're little, choose youthful fabrics, and when they get older, there's nothing prettier than checks. This is a stimulating color for a toddler and not too insipid for a teenager—and not gender-specific. I just painted my nephew's room in it, and my niece wants to swap rooms with him."

LIBBY CAMERON
BENJAMIN MOORE
SAILOR'S SEA BLUE 2063-40



"Blue is not only for boys. I use it all the time because it's so versatile. It works with almost any color—coral, pink, green, chartreuse, yellow. My teenage daughter's bedroom is this pale blue that reminds me of the slightly dusty, more aged blues used back in the 1940s. I did it with this wonderful bright red Sister Parish fabric, and it should take her right through college."

ATHALIE DERSE
FARROW & BALL
BORROWED LIGHT 235



"Anything that reminds me of walking along a beach is a great starting point. A classic sand color like this, neutral enough to work over several years, acts as a foundation; the details can change as the child starts exploring his or her own personal style. It looks sunny with natural light streaming in, and then in the evening it's comfortable and warm. Plus, it's nontoxic, and as a parent myself, that's very important."

STEPHEN SAINT-ONGE
MYTHIC PAINT
PEBBLE BEACH 167-2



"This could go a long way because it's not the usual pink. It has a touch of gray, which makes it more interesting. Start out with white trim and ballerina artwork. Then switch to gray trim and contemporary photography. It could look very Christian Dior. Or Marie Antoinette, with playful pistachio or pale blue accents. If you want to rock out, accent it with chartreuse, red, or black."

SARA STORY
FARROW & BALL
CALAMINE 230

