

ATLANTA HOMES™ *&* LIFESTYLES

Home for
the Holidays

December 2008
atlantahomesmag.com

\$4.95US

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SMILE



Holiday Redux

High style translates to "expect the unexpected" at Designer Beth Webb's Buckhead residence. Unpretentious winterberries are right at home next to elegant, but whimsical, topiaries made of mouth-watering meringues.



Seasonal Chic

With an extraordinary eye for detail, Designer Beth Webb creates a scrumptiously stylish holiday scheme at her Buckhead home

Written by Heather J. Paper Photographed by Erica George Dines Produced by Clinton Smith

WHEN THE HOLIDAYS ROLL AROUND, DESIGNER BETH WEBB, like most people, wants her home to be “warm, welcoming and wonderful.” But that’s often where the similarities end. Instead of decking her halls with traditional red and green hues, she defies convention and opts, instead, for a more personal palette. “I usually expand on the scheme that’s already in place,” she says. “I just kick it up a notch.”

Webb’s signature neutral hues, for instance, provide the perfect starting point for a textural mix. “I have a lot of things that aren’t necessarily green,” she explains, “like mercury silver balls and pinecones, basics that I tend to change up every few years. I pare down to a simple, elegant directive—stuff you can put up that won’t make a mess, instead of greenery that sheds everywhere.”

That’s not to say that there’s not a hint of green anywhere. It’s just that Webb finds ways to incorporate the expected hue in unexpected ways. This season, for instance, a garland made of olive branches and bay leaves is draped over the fireplace, a refreshing change of pace—just like the design solutions her clients have come to expect. *Beth Webb Interiors, (404) 869-6367; bethwebb.com*



↑ **GET THE LOOK** Offering a twist on the more expected pinecones-among-holiday boughs, Webb uses olive branches and bay leaves interspersed with three-inch-tall wooden acorns. Part of the charm, too, is the juxtaposition of the natural elements with a sleek and sophisticated turned wood vase from William Yeoward, which the designer acquired while visiting London several years ago. *Carved wooden acorns, Boxwoods Gardens & Gifts, (404) 233-3400.*



STYLE SECRETS: QUIET LUXURY

I'M KNOWN FOR... timeless, sophisticated, elegant designs, whether the project is classic, contemporary or eclectic.

MY SIGNATURE COLORS ARE... predominantly neutrals. Right now I love chocolate, winter white and silvery grays.

MY SIGNATURE STYLE IS... a clean-lined aesthetic; everything has to be comfortable and textural. A variety of textures is particularly important in neutral rooms. And I'm a firm believer that every room should be used.

More style secrets, next page.



WHERE TO SHOP Exquisite antique silver from Beverly Bremer Silver Shop and creamware from Interiors Market adorns the tabletop, again exemplifying Webb's flair for combining unlike elements. Rustic-looking winterberries look just as elegant against the silver as Le Lapin's airy meringue kisses. "And I love these monogrammed napkins; I found them at Gramercy Home in the Peachtree Battle Shopping Center. They turn custom embroidery around in two days!"
Silver, Beverly Bremer Silver Shop, (404) 261-4009. Creamware, Interiors Market, (404) 352-0055. Meringues, Le Lapin, (404) 814-0411. Napkins, Gramercy Home, (404) 846-9244.

STYLE SECRETS

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MY ONE STEADFAST DESIGN RULE IS...

KISS—Keep It Simple, Stupid.

Editing is one of the hardest things that you do as a designer. I try to adhere to the advice of Coco Chanel, who said 'When accessorizing, always take off the last thing you put on.'

MY FAVORITE ATLANTA SHOPPING SPOTS ARE...

the Westside, the Galleries of Peachtree Hills and ADAC. It's all about one-stop shopping, places where you can have all of your needs met.

MY EARLIEST DESIGN MEMORY IS...

knowing that I wanted a design career practically from the time I was in kindergarten. My mother was terrific about letting me do what I wanted to; she let me decorate my bedroom when I was in the third grade, and when I was in the sixth grade, she let me choose the paint color for the kitchen. It was coral—and it was awful—but it was a dark kitchen, so I thought it would help. It was my very first design mistake, but my mother left it that way until she sold the house.

WHAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW

ABOUT ME IS... I'm a very spiritual person; I've gotten to a stage in my life where peace and serenity are so important.

WHEN DECORATING FOR THE HOLIDAYS,

I ALWAYS... panic! I always wait until the last minute and, being a designer, others' expectations [of my decorating] are so high. I feel like I have to reinvent the wheel all the time.

MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY MEMORY IS...

when my children were little, and they still believed in Santa Claus, I would dip my fingers in the ashes from the fireplace and smudge their cheeks after they'd fallen asleep. The next morning, I'd tell them they'd received kisses from Santa!