

A honed limestone fireplace and an iron chandelier are commanding elements in the family room. **Far right:** Grace Woodbery offers a carrot to a horse in the family's barn.

Style soul mates harness their twin tastes



BY SAXON HENRY PHOTOGRAPHY BY EMILY MINTON-REDFIELD PRODUCED BY ELEANOR ROPER



PEER PLEASURE

to design a horse farm that caters to family.

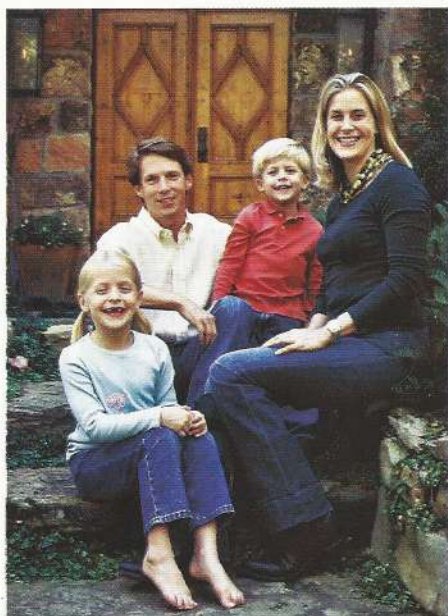
When Shayelyn Woodbery saw a magazine spread of designer Kay Douglass's home,

she felt she'd found her style twin. Two collaborations later, when she and husband David were ready to build a home on a wooded acreage in Atlanta, Shayelyn never considered asking anyone else to help her design a house that looked as though it had been planted for ages in those sylvan pastures.

A Georgia native, Shayelyn grew up riding horses and longed to create a horse-focused farm home for her young family. The couple has two children, Grace, 8, and Wyatt, 5. When David, who is a developer, found several acres located in the city, the Woodberys jumped at the chance to have their own "in-town farm," Shayelyn says. "We fulfilled our dream of getting back to riding horses and creating a family lifestyle around it."

Douglass happily signed on for the Woodberys' newest adventure, with lifestyle driving every design decision, right down to the fabric selections.

The home needed to be pretty but livable, David insisted. "We designed the house to support a continual coming in and going out," Douglass explains. "We knew that Grace and Wyatt and their friends would be rushing in with their dusty boots after riding horses or playing outside, so there was simply no room for delicate, white fabric here!"





Old barn boards on the dining room ceiling and an antique dining table and chairs from Paris give the new home an aged patina. Opposite, clockwise from top left: The stone house conveys a casual European elegance. ■ Club chairs spark the family room's earthy palette. ■ The Woodberys—Grace, David, Wyatt, and Shayelyn—have created a lifestyle with horses at its core.

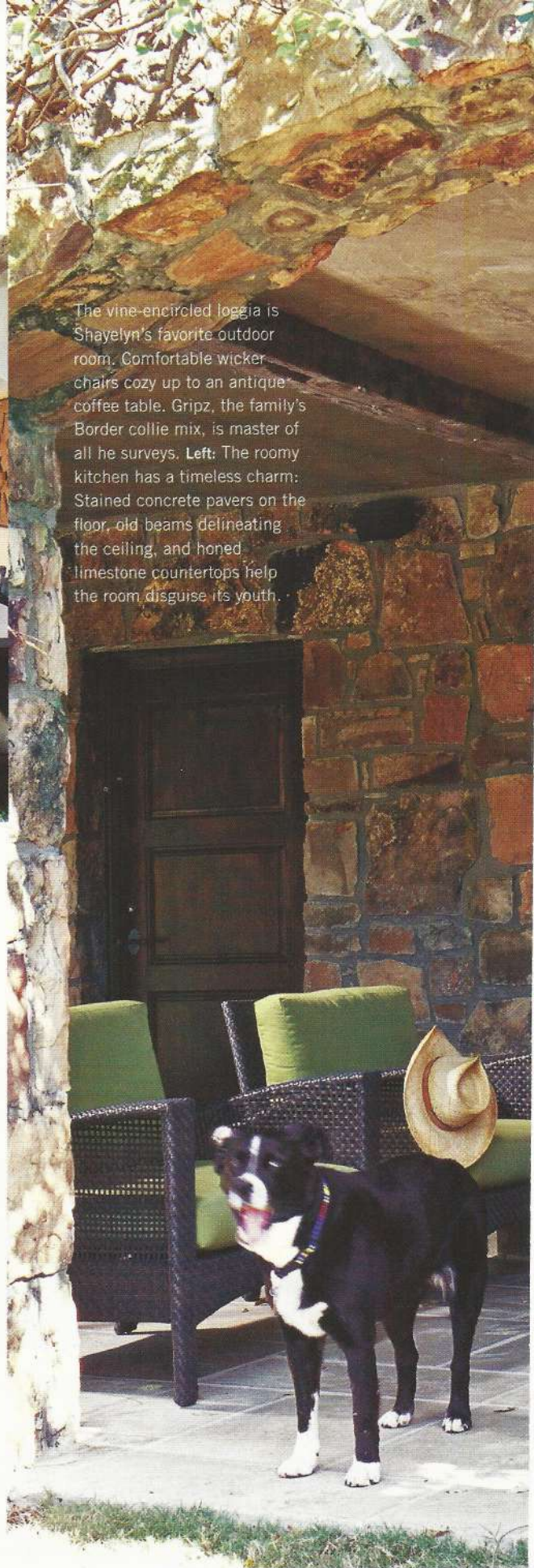


Shayelyn's plan was to infuse the interiors with the casual European style she and David had grown to love during a trip to the South of France. To fulfill the vision, Shayelyn asked Douglass if she would go with her to Paris on a buying spree. "I loved the idea," Douglass says.

Scouring antiques shops, warehouses, and the famed flea markets of Paris for five days, they thought they'd landed in paradise. "Incredibly, we used almost everything we purchased, which is not always the case when buying for a house that's not built," Douglass says. They found so many wonderful things that Douglass opened her first shop, South of Market (one of three she now owns), soon after they returned.

In every room, Douglass's minimalist approach and Shayelyn's ability to add just the right touch of warmth melded with enchanting results. In the family room, the epicenter of the home, upholstered pieces mix with antiques and one-of-a-kind accessories. Balancing casual comfort and refinement was especially important here. "The great room is also the Woodberys' formal living room, so it had to be family-friendly, but we wanted it to have an air of sophistication about it," Douglass says.

The color palette they chose reflects the home's natural setting. "We wanted the inside and outside to flow together so that there wasn't much of a separation between the two," says Shayelyn. "Also, Kay and I are sticklers about making a new house look old without it looking as if we faked it, so we brought in old materials when we could and found new materials that looked old when we couldn't."



The vine-encircled loggia is Shayelyn's favorite outdoor room. Comfortable wicker chairs cozy up to an antique coffee table. Gripz, the family's Border collie mix, is master of all he surveys. **Left:** The roomy kitchen has a timeless charm: Stained concrete pavers on the floor, old beams delineating the ceiling, and honed limestone countertops help the room disguise its youth.





Right: Designer Kay Douglass created the iron bed, which is draped in white linen organza. She also fashioned the bed pillow from a vintage burlap bag. The bedside pendants swivel, making them ideal for nighttime reading.

Left: Stained concrete pavers on the floor in the master bath look remarkably at home in the Old World setting, which Shayelyn and Douglass achieved by using an old farm table as a vanity and antique French frames to hold mirrors.

Below: The design of the master closet was based on a French kitchen with arched cabinets that the builder had admired. The stately shutters framing the doorway came from France.

Douglass designed a number of the light fixtures and other accessories, such as the fireplace screen in the family room, which had been a bicycle storage rack. The sofa table in the family room was a seed trough in its former life, and pillows made from hopsacking, antique tapestries, and vintage fringe—all Douglass's signature designs—dot the home.

The massive iron chandelier in the family room is an antique they unearthed in a warehouse in Paris. That's also where they found the table in the dining room. With its barn-wood ceiling and pumpkin-hued draperies, this is the family's favorite room. "When I found the orange fabric for the dining room, I called Shayelyn and said, 'You're either going to love this or you're going to think I'm crazy!'" Douglass remembers. Orange is Shayelyn's favorite color, so it was love at first sight.

The master bedroom is dreamy with its linen-draped four-poster bed. "David and I call this our tree house," says Shayelyn. Adding subtle French twists are the bedside tables—one of which is an old jelly cupboard nabbed in Paris—and the vintage burlap pillow designed by Douglass that reads "L. Germond."

As is evidenced by such treasures, the pair is a formidable design-savvy team. "I think the project was so much fun because we were completely synchronistic," says Shayelyn. "If you have the same style as the person you're working with, a project seems effortless, and that was definitely the case with us." ■

Interior designer: Kay Douglass For more information, see sources on page 198.



David and I call the bedroom our tree house.

—HOMEOWNER SHAYELYN WOODBERY

