



Utilizing a self-described “classical with a twist” style, Elinor combines traditional décor with contemporary elements.

BY LAUREN RIPPEY
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MAC JAMIESON
FLORAL DESIGN BY ELIZABETH’S GARDEN

Polished silver, crisp draperies, fresh colors, fine antiques—a Southern home is a palette for creative expression. But for Elinor Jones, an award-winning interior designer featured on HGTV, home is also a reflection of her professional skill. The Emory University graduate has spent the past 17 years creating fine interiors for residential and commercial clients throughout the South.

Originally from Tennessee, Elinor fondly recalls the intricate Barbie mansions of her childhood. “We’d spend all day setting up and decorating our doll houses, eventually turning the whole room into Barbieland,” she says. “By the time we were done designing and ready to play, Mom was calling us for dinner.”

After moving to Atlanta, Georgia, to attend college, the budding stylist spent a few years teaching secondary English before returning to school to pursue her passion for decorating. “There are so many things to love about my field,” she says. “It’s a happy process to make furniture and fabrics tie together into a pleasing environment, especially when you know it will make people’s lives more comfortable.”

When beginning any project, Elinor asks her clients to collect pictures from books, magazines, and catalogues. Melding these suggestions with her own ideas, Elinor creates hand-drawn and computer-aided renderings to bring her vision to life. Then the fun begins.

Inspired Design: Elinor Jones

From Her Home to Yours

Elinor Jones shares do-it-yourself tips for applying new style to your space.

Although her technique will vary from one job to another, lately Elinor has used fewer prints and more tone-on-tones with modified doses of rich fabrics and color. Thanks to a recent trip to Germany, the avid collector is also using nature-inspired themes with clean lines, birds, and monochromatic color schemes. She says, "I know I've done my job when I create a harmonious home."

Not surprisingly, her own abode is just that. With its warm tones, French antiques, and thoughtful décor, the ever-evolving Atlanta dwelling is impressively elegant yet comfortably livable. "I'm the last client on my list," Elinor says, "but I'm always on the lookout for ideas that would work in our house as well." ☘



To contact Elinor Jones Interiors, call 404-351-1760 or visit www.elinorjonesinteriors.com.

- Small changes can make a big impression. Opt for upholstery with muted hues and then add new pillows and throws to create a fresh look.
- When decorating main rooms, start with a favorite rug, then choose your wall shade. "There's an unlimited number of paint colors, but a small supply of perfect carpeting," she says.
- Orchids are an ideal floral accent for winter months. Several plants in a large pot make quite an impact in front of a mirror or on a mantle or coffee table.
- Work in odd number groupings. Sets of three or five books, frames, or candles are most eye-appealing.
- Always edit your accessories. When there's too much in a room or on a wall, your eyes can't rest on a focal point.
- Consider the ceiling a fifth wall by painting it with a contrasting color and adding decorative molding.
- Don't be afraid to use one bold or black accent in each room.



Decorating Destinations

Fabulous local shopping suggestions, straight from the source.

- Atlanta Decorative Arts Center (ADAC): A furnishings mecca for design professionals; www.adacdesigncenter.com.
- 14th Street Antiques: 40,000 square feet of quality antiques and oriental rugs; www.14thstreetantiques.com.
- The Westside (Huff Road/Howell Mill area): boutiques, antiques, and discount fabrics.



————— *As Seen on TV* —————

In Fall 2004, Elinor Jones Interiors won the opportunity to participate in Home & Garden Television's (HGTV) popular program *Designers' Challenge*. Charged with the mission to makeover a family's 18-foot-tall great room and adjoining dining room within a \$40,000 budget, Elinor exceeded the homeowners' expectations and made a name for herself nationally.



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