

ROMANTIC LIVING, HOMES, GARDENS, FOOD, BEAUTY, INSPIRING WOMEN

Victoria

102 GARDEN SECRETS
FROM THE PROS

Antique Your Walls
With Frescoes

ROOMS GO
BLOND &
BEAUTIFUL
page 14

in love with roses

Decorating
Ideas From
A Romantic Ranch

SIMPLE 4-STAR HERB RECIPES

JUNE 2003 USA \$2.95
CANADA \$4.50/FOREIGN \$4.50



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favorite finds

Summer's message—lighten up!—reaches from the outside in like a shaft of sunshine. We've answered by going blond—with pale golden hues throughout the house.

THE URGE TO SIMPLIFY always seems stronger when the winds grow warmer. One craves comfort without complication and colors that are restful yet upbeat. On these pages, we suggest how all those wishes can be satisfied with a clean look using honey tones of yellow, simple patterns and light or whitewashed woods. Of course we're not throwing tradition to those same warm winds—just distilling it to the essentials we most want to live with, whether it's our own desk or the beautiful fireside seating, above. The "Zondra" armless settee is upholstered in "Sybil" linen-cotton blend in Butler, \$1,275, by Mitchell Gold. "Adam" round-back side chair upholstered in buffalo-check silk, \$1,230; and, in front of window, slipcovered "Host" wingchair from the James River Collection, \$1,300, both by Hickory Chair. Pillow on chair sewn from yellow "Sailors Bay Stripe" from the Ralph Lauren Home Collection. Self-bound sisal rug in Honey, six by nine feet, \$199, from Pottery Barn. On mantel, from left: Hand-blown footed glass bowl, \$90, Period Designs; glass hurricane with polished silver trim, \$450, Ralph Lauren Home Collection. The living room wall color is Journal White from the Ralph Lauren Paint Collection. Shopping information, page 98.

photographed by MAURA McEVOY produced by TRICIA FOLEY text by GABRIELLA HASPEL

favorite finds



*Peace—that was
the other name for home.*
—Kathleen Norris



FLOWERS AND CHINESE GENTLEMEN trip across the handpainted "Chinois Toile" pattern on bone china, above left. The pattern is such a signature of Haute Home by Jane Leider that it's found on everything from the company's wrapping paper to its stationery. In Sepia color here, the china pattern can also be had in blue and white; \$165 for a five-piece place setting that includes a dinner plate, bread and butter plate, soup bowl, cup and saucer.

A LARGE, COMFY SOFA needn't take over the room. Covered in a subdued solid color, above, even an overstuffed sofa will seem sleeker and mingle well with its surroundings. Sofa from Lee Industries in "Davis Golden" linen, \$2,461. The gilded "Oak Leaves and Twigs" mirror propped on the shelf behind measures approximately thirty-three by forty-six inches, \$695, Carvers' Guild-Canner, Inc.

RUSTY, LEFT, KNOWS COMFORT when she sees it, and would like to appropriate this floor pillow for herself; it's covered in "Sandcastle" fabric in Maize, \$450, by Mitchell Gold. Self-bound sisal rug in Honey, six by nine feet, \$199, from Pottery Barn. In background, leather-upholstered French bergère, \$3,569, Baker. Forsythia cashmere throw draped on chair, \$398, Garnet Hill. On chest of drawers: hand-blown footed glass bowl with apples, \$90, Period Designs. If you'd like to share your life with a pet, consider adopting a charmer like Rusty. Visit the ASPCA's online adoption partner, www.petfinder.com, which allows you to search an amazing database of tens of thousands of animals by type (dog, cat, "small and furry" and "barnyard" among them), as well as by breed, location and more.



BUTTER AND CREAM—as colors, they offer all the comfort without the calories. In the guest room, opposite, a "Rose" daybed with linen-upholstered headboard and "Kristina" bedside cabinet by Swedish Blonde are paired with pale yellow and white linens. Twin-size daybed, \$1,950; and nightstand, \$895. "Counterpane" quilt in Chamomile, \$125; and Fieldcrest "Charisma Classic Dot" twin-size flat sheet, \$60, standard pillowcases, \$60 a pair, all from Gamet Hill. "Elizabeth" quilted pillow sham, \$40, the Chandler Collection. Yellow and white pillows sewn from "Sailors Bay Stripe" by Ralph Lauren Home Collection. Coconut-fiber runner, \$72, from Bloom.

EXTRA PILLOWS, ANYONE? It's nice to have a few around for porch chairs or fireside reading—especially when they're neatly stored in this rush utility basket with linen lining, \$60 from Palecek, above. The down pillows by Ann Gish have removable covers. From front to back: doupionni silk "French Mattress" in Chamois, \$225, silk charmeuse in Bitter Yellow, \$235; quilted silk charmeuse in Bitter Yellow, \$160.

A CUPFUL OF SPRINGTIME, this pale blonde primrose is planted in a vintage ironstone cup from the Ralph Lauren Country Store in Southampton, New York. (Make sure to put some stones in the bottom for drainage.) "Buttercup" gingham check roll-up shade, twenty-two inches wide, \$37, from Country Curtains.

WITH SLIDING GLASS DOORS like a barrister's bookcase, the "Wainscott" bookcase is fresh for today in a creamy finish with beadboard sides, and keeps all within dust-free. About forty-seven inches wide by fifty-two high and eighteen deep, \$1,395, from the Martha Stewart Signature collection for Bernhardt. On top: rush storage basket with linen lining, \$33, Palecek; glass vase, \$45, from Bloom.

YOU'D EXPECT SOMETHING SUBLIME from Vera Wang, who so beautifully interprets traditional bridal gowns for contemporary brides. Her new "Champagne Duchesse" china designed for Wedgwood is just as elegant. Teapot, \$200; cream pitcher, \$80; covered sugar dish, \$105; five-piece place setting, \$109. White linen napkin with silk border, \$26, ABH Design. Shopping information, page 96.



favorite finds



AS IF RINSED IN SUNSHINE—that's the clean feeling we get from these linens in golden hues and subtle prints, above left. On top shelf, tied with ribbon, "Tribeca" linen twin-size duvet cover, \$159, and Euro shams, \$39 each, from Charles P. Rogers. At right, on top shelf, mohair throw, \$98, Garnet Hill; "English Ivy" cotton cable-knit throw, \$50, Faribault Woolen Mills. Second shelf, at left, soft yellow English flannel twin flat sheet, \$30, and standard pillowcases, \$28 a pair; underneath, cashmere throw in Forsythia, \$398, all from Garnet Hill. At right: twin flat sheet, \$26, and standard pillowcase, \$38 a pair, with hemstitching, Wamsutta. Underneath: "Yellow Diana" twin coverlet, \$198, Traditions by Pamela Kline. Third shelf, at left and center, solid yellow sateen sheeting or woven with dots: twin-size flat sheets, \$49 each, and standard pillowcases, \$44 a pair, The Company Store. Right, cotton basketweave throw in Butter, \$50, Faribault Woolen Mills; on top, white sheets with checkered border, twin flat, \$26, and pair of standard pillowcases, \$38, Wamsutta. Fourth shelf: "Antoinette Yellow" floral quilt, queen-size, \$347, Traditions by Pamela Kline; Wind River Collection checked wool blanket, queen-size, \$165, Faribault Woolen Mills. Bottom shelf: "Molly" narrow-stripe quilt, with floral on the reverse, full/queen, \$310, Pine Cone Hill. Over door: "Elizabeth" ecru quilted pillow sham with scalloped edges, \$40, the Chandler Collection. "Trellis" queen-size quilt with tiny yellow flowers, \$337, Traditions by Pamela Kline.

GREAT FOR A BATHROOM or for spices in the kitchen, the wire shelf above is \$16, by America Retold. "Panama Weave" wallpaper in Blond from the Classic Wallpaper Textures Collection by Ralph Lauren Home Collection.

KNOWN FOR HER CHILDREN'S line of furniture, Betsy Cameron now has a full line of bedroom furniture for adults as well. The Betsy Cameron Home "Sweet Kisses" armchair, left, upholstered in beige toile, \$1,275, by Lexington Home Brands. "Lucas" table in background with tray top and drawer beneath lower shelf, \$330, Blanc d'Ivoire. Shopping information, page 96.

THE ADAPTABLE WRITING TABLE, right, suits any niche or room—from the kitchen to a child's room or a living-room corner. Clean-lined and updated though it is, it has plenty of drawer space for pens, paper and other necessities. Ivory-painted "Julia" writing table, \$1,950, and "Gustav" chair, \$600, are both from Swedish Blonde. "Prélude White" square teacup and saucer on desk, \$70 and \$35 respectively, Jean-Louis Coquet for Lalique. Cream tartan plaid linen napkin, \$22, ABH Design. On chair: Forsythia cashmere throw, \$398, Garnet Hill; pillow sewn from "Sailors Bay Stripe" by Ralph Lauren Home Collection.

DÉCOUPAGÉ BY ARTISANS IN FRANCE, the solid cherry striped chest, below left, is covered with hand-applied wallpaper. A striking yet delicate piece—note the pretty shaping of the base. From the De Bournais Collection, \$4,936, by French Heritage. Over-size "Paola" tureen, \$120 with ladle, the Conran Shop.

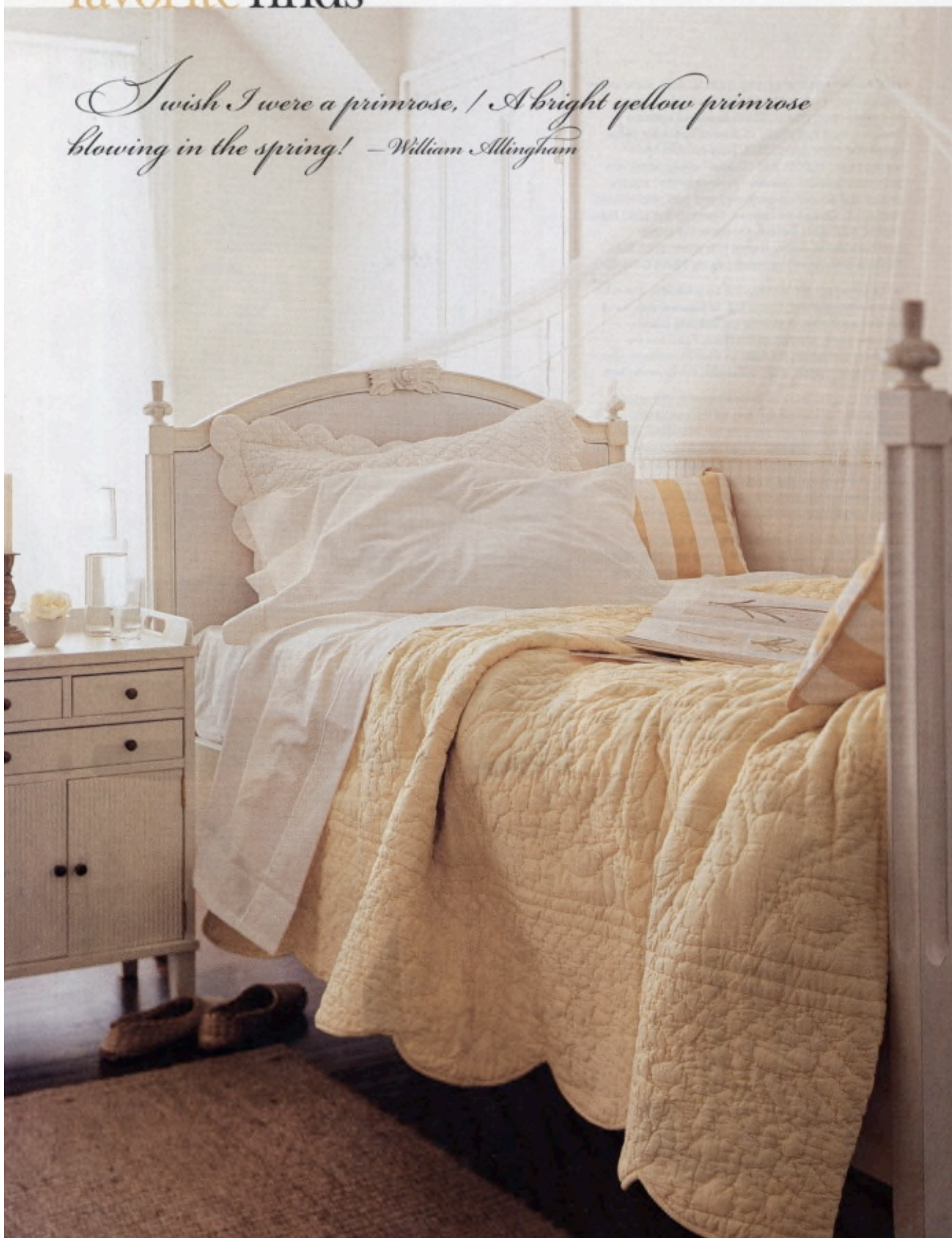
WHITE CHINA WITH A DIFFERENCE, the square-shaped set, below center, has all the useful charms of crisp white without the yawn factor. Moreover, it's porcelain. The "Prélude" shape was first created in the sixties, and has recently been introduced in this popular color. A five-piece place setting includes a dinner plate, dessert and bread-and-butter plates, cup and saucer, \$225, by Jean-Louis Coquet for Lalique.

NANTUCKET-STYLE BASKETS have long been cherished (and useful) icons of island life. This version, below right, with its linen lining and built-in pockets, is a sewing basket, \$82—just one of the antique reproductions you'll find in Cohasset Colonials' fascinating mail-order catalog. The company offers reasonable reproduction American furniture (most of it in assemble-it-yourself kits) based on William and Mary, Windsor and Federal designs. Also appealing are their period-appropriate accessories from lamps and mirrors to rag rugs. Their most popular item? Windsor chairs. Yellow damask huckweave guest towels, \$22 each, Greenhorn Trading Company. Shopping information, page 96.



favorite finds

*I wish I were a primrose, / A bright yellow primrose
Blowing in the spring! —William Allingham*





LIGHT SEEMS TO FLOAT above this gracefully shaped clear glass lamp from the Jamie Young Company. It's a self-effacing solution for a small or crowded tabletop, or where color would be distracting. When Jamie and her designer husband, David Jeter, realized that the only lamps they liked were vintage, they decided to expand their existing business (in cast-concrete pots) in that direction. Together the team experimented with punchy textiles for shades and played with offbeat materials such as cast bronze, seagrass, mother of pearl and glass. Although lighting remains their mainstay, they also offer a range of other home accessories, furniture and garden containers. Mouth-blown "Tusk" table lamp with linen shade, \$400. The wall paint color here is Montauk Driftwood from the Ralph Lauren Paint Collection.

LITTLE SQUIRTS adore having chairs that are just for them, and have been known to tote them from room to room. The sturdy, "Carolina" children's chairs, below left, can stand the affection; \$59 each, in citron yellow. They also come in green, red, pink, blue and white, all with an antiqued finish, from Pottery Barn Kids.

A THOUGHTFUL HOUSEWARMING or hostess gift would be a pair of delicately embroidered linen-damask guest towels like those below, center. We chose "Chrysanthemum" and "Muriel." Several other designs are available, including bright pinky-red "Geranium," violet "Petunia" and blue "Hyacinth." They're \$24 each, from Haute Home by Jane Leider.

REMINISCENT OF BEACH GLASS, the opaque white glass tumblers, below right, are \$20 each, at Aero. White linen napkins with silk border, \$26 each, ABH Design. Shopping information, page 96.

*Just living is not enough,....
one must have sunshine, freedom and
a little flower. —Hans Christian Andersen*

