

KATIE LEDECKY
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Designers have a knack for making sure every room in a house looks great. But let's admit it: When it comes to their own homes, there's often one room they love more than the others

By Gabriele McCormick
Photos by Stacy Zarin-Goldberg

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Kelley Proxmire: The Master Bedroom

Sixteen years ago, designer Kelley Proxmire bought the house one door away from her Westmoreland Hills residence in Bethesda for its larger rooms and architectural charm.

Designed by an Italian architect and built in 1934 for the Wetherill family of Bethesda, the house has a winding floor plan and unique structural elements, such as the angled ceilings in the master bedroom—Proxmire's favorite room in the house.

Proxmire, who has been a designer for 25 years, describes her style as "tailored traditional with a bit of flair." She chose a robin's-egg-blue-and-cream palette for the bedroom she shares with her husband, Teddy, to create a sense of serenity. The cream-colored Julia Gray furniture, originally purchased for a Georgetown showhouse bedroom that she designed, inspired her to redo her own bedroom two years ago, a space she had decorated in green and pink when she bought the house.

In addition to the robin's-egg-blue walls, Proxmire loves the blue and pale green fabric she selected—after a five-year search—for an upholstered chair, bed canopy and pillows. "When I work for a client, I can [find fabric] in a couple of hours," she says. "Designers can have more difficulty doing their own homes, finding exactly what they want."

Known for her use of a single color or two accented by white or black, Proxmire says restricting colors keeps her rooms peaceful. "I also like to use some patterns, but not too many. The look now is a mixture of different patterns,



Kelley Proxmire likes to spend time surfing Pinterest on her iPad as she relaxes in her peaceful master bedroom.

but I find a room like that loses the peace and calm we all need," she says.

Proxmire got her first iPad in August and instantly became addicted to Pinterest, a content-sharing website where users "pin" images, videos and other objects to their pin boards. She often spends time in her bedroom's sitting

area, surfing through the home design pinups, and was shocked the first time a room she had designed appeared. Since then, she has seen a lot of her work on the site.

The showhouse bedroom that inspired her own room "just keeps popping up," Proxmire says.

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