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THE BIEDERMEIER BEDROOM

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY MATTHEW MILLMAN
STYLED BY SUZANNE TUCKER

Thoughtful touches and a dreamy color palette make one room stand the test of time.

IN A GEORGIAN VILLA IN ATHERON, California, in the San Francisco Peninsula, is a room that exudes luxury. When interior designer Suzanne Tucker was first presented with the challenge of designing four guest bedrooms in the home, she set out to find accents that would achieve the right look.

The bedrooms, located off a long gallery, were each designed to feature floors with mosaics and a series of medallions in front of each room's doorway, representing that room's theme. The mosaic outside of this room had motifs of lyre and laurel leaves, so it was a natural fit for Suzanne to call it the "Biedermeier Bedroom," as it radiates with the German simplicity of the Biedermeier style.

"I set out to find period pieces, classic textiles, themes and patterns from the style," Suzanne says. She hunted for rare antiques and one-of-a-kind items to create a truly personal sanctuary. The clients were open-minded, and Suzanne, along with architect Andrew Skurman, put much consideration into each detail.

Pale colors also make for a gender-neutral room. "The neoclassical furnishings, fresh palette and masculine patterns make this room timeless and chic—comfortable for a man or a woman," Suzanne says. The writing table and Swedish armchair upholstered in a pale yellow make for a cozy spot for letting thoughts meander onto pages.

GET THE LOOK

- ✘ To begin designing a room, Suzanne suggests focusing on just a few of your favorite items and letting everything else take shape from there. "Definitely go for quality over quantity, buy the best you can afford and don't feel like you have to complete a space all at once," she says. "Have fun and enjoy the creative process of expressing your personality and putting your individual stamp on a space."
- ✘ Suzanne believes that what makes this room work is its "fresh and crisp" color palette of pale creams and blues along with added hints of gold that shine. For sophistication, neoclassical-style furnishings and "19th-century Piranesi steel engravings carefully grouped by size and content" are key.
- ✘ Another important element of this room is that the décor is kept simple and classic. "Note that the room is not overflowing with pieces. Thoughtful editing is crucial. Less isn't always more," Suzanne says.
- ✘ The balance from the symmetry seen in the two groupings of framed art is also a beautiful touch, as the gold frames match the sconces and gilt-covered accessories. "The key is always balance—in color, texture and materials," Suzanne advises.

For more information on Suzanne Tucker's designs for Tucker & Marks, call (415) 445-6789 or visit tuckerandmarks.com.

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