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A Young Boy's Bedroom With Room to Grow

BY ALEXA HARRIS-RALFF
AHR DESIGNS
SPECIAL TO HOMESCAPE

The Challenge:

To give this elementary school boy a room that can carry him through his teen years. We were tasked with creating a space that was equal parts ready for sleepovers, studying and an escape from his two very chatty sisters. Our clients value high-quality items but are always up for a fun, eclectic mix.

The Solution:

While I love a full or even queen size bed for a kid's room, it's important to recognize that adolescence requires a bit of space for sleepovers. Twin beds were the way to go in this modest-sized room. The home is a typical Colonial with windows that make sense symmetrically on the exterior but make the interior layout a bit askew. We handled this by providing balance with a nicely scaled piece of personal art, an homage to our homeowner's home state of California.

The headboards are simple and indestructible burlap slipcovers with rustic nailheads. We purposely opted just for headboards since the chances were high, based on genetics, that this boy would pass 6 feet at some point in the not-so-distant future.

We maxed storage with a simple bench at the end of one bed which doubles as a bookcase and seating with a custom cushion.

Kids' rooms are a great place to do a high/low mix. "Do it once and do it right" is an AHR Designs motto. In this room the custom linen blackout lined roman shades were a timeless choice. The Thomas O'Brien Large Hicks pendant in mixed metals was in the clients' former townhome stairwell and was repurposed here.



A boy's bedroom that accommodates sleepovers and studying and provides an escape from two chatty sisters. The fun, eclectic design can carry him through this teen years. (Note the beds have no footboards, so there is room for him to grow!) ROOM SETTING PHOTO BY CHRISTINE GATTI

Soft materials in a kids' room are where I encourage practicality. Washable, removeable duvet covers and some cozy sheets are all you need. We incorporated some fun Etsy purposely mismatched throw pillows. Since this boy was past playing on the floor, we went with a natural seagrass-ready maderug. When we design for younger kids, we often specify a wool version in the same look.

At AHR Designs, we love to curate art with our clients. This project shows a great example of mixed mediums and objects. Buy what makes you happy. We don't care if it's a movie or concert poster, a vintage fire hat, a photo of a favorite place. In this room we framed a family favorite picture of this boy's grandpa fishing, a tradition they share together.



ALEXA HARRIS-RALFF,
ASSOCIATE ASID
AHR DESIGNS, MILLBURN, NJ
ahrdesigns.com

The New Jersey Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) offers a resource for consumers interested in obtaining the services of a qualified professional interior designer. For more information, visit Find a Pro section at www.nj.asid.org.

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