



COLUMBUS, OHIO

Who says that your library has to be subdued and dark? Pamela Yost, ASID, broke the mold when she designed a cozy, light-filled library retreat for the 1999 Decorators' Show House in Columbus, Ohio.

Instead of dark-stained woodwork, Pamela chose a bright antique-white paint. She then joined the built-in bookshelves with a reading nook and an overhead shelf. "It brings continuity," Pamela says, "and adds more usable space to the wall."

Pamela designed the room around a black-and-white toile fabric. She upholstered

a comfy armchair, made Roman shades and covered a cushion and throw pillows in the print. The toile's light background blends well with the wall color.

Geometric patterns in a similar color scheme decorate the carpet and the footstool's upholstery. The subtle linen-look wall covering behind the shelves adds texture. Lighter patterns mix with textures to keep the small room intimate, without becoming too dark.

Blending new furniture with antique pieces gives the room an up-to-date look.

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Photographs: Jon Miller/Hedrich Blessing. Field editor: Betsy Harris.

Design Advice

- Start with a fabric you love.

Pamela Yost couldn't resist a classic black-and-white toile, which inspired the library's overall color scheme.

- Build on your foundation.

Using the same color palette, Pamela chose a darker shade for the wall-to-wall carpeting to keep the room balanced. A swath of gold in a black-and-white plaid warms the accent chair's upholstery (left).

- Add a personal touch.

Pamela combines her box collection with favorite books, photos and paintings to accessorize the room.

