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Terrific Table Settings
Special
KITCHEN & BATH
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HOLLYWOOD
GLAMOUR
Inside Designer
Ginger Atherton's
L.A. Home


Hollywood
Glamour

Above and right: **Guests are ushered into the home by large, free-standing candelabrils that lead through the four-panel custom-designed iron and glass entry doors depicting a Mediterranean villa. The two-level ground floor is covered in warm Italian tile that continues throughout the home. Twin chandeliers in the entry are Arbuthnot's own custom design. The grand secretary is by Rose Cathine.**

George Arbuthnot has worked in Los Angeles for 25 years as interior designer of choice among the city's elite. Arbuthnot's clients include movie stars, moguls, yachts, and private jets throughout the world. She's amassed an overwhelming collection of international antiques and design finds, and her design studio on Robertson Boulevard in Beverly Hills houses a private collection of custom furnishings she's designed exclusively for her clients. Her true love is refurbishing old grand homes and estates, bringing them up to date, while preserving the architectural integrity of the original design, and furnishing them with a mix of the finest old-world pieces, the casual, yet elegant, with lots of character to fit into the California lifestyle. So when it came to re-modeling her new home in just six short weeks, Arbuthnot was prepared. But it was a challenge, nonetheless. "I love warm homes that actually improve with age, that have absolutely livable, luxurious interiors," says Arbuthnot,

Above: Just off the entry in a small foyer Atherton designed as a vestibule leading into the family library, An 19th-century French console and mirror are flanked by two Italian reproduction chairs from Atherton's private collection.

Left: The console in the entry is Atherton's own custom design. Atherton found the antique mirror frame above the console at a Los Angeles antique shop and had it custom-fitted with a beveled glass mirror. Flanked by two Italian reproduction chairs, Atherton then strategically placed a gilt-edged sculpture and color to what she says is an almost otherworldly "Hand-me-down foyer." Iron sconces coordinating with the chandelier adorn the Venetian plaster walls.


CHANEL

Left: Ms. and Mrs. Ovsich top off the master suite. The gentleman's closet features French marble, monogrammed hangers, ebonized, and a custom-built cabinet for his collection of ties.

Above: A grand staircase, in the same Italian tile as the entry, leads to the second floor and the luxurious master bedroom suite. The master retreat itself is dominated by a four-poster hand-carved bed from Jensen, dressed in cranberry silk taffeta Carrington fabric. Antique chairs flank the master bed with Occasionex lamps and family pictures. A walloo-wall hand-woven silk custom carpet lies beneath it all, creating elegant comfort down to the very corners of the space.

and with three teenage sons at home, but ours home had to be exactly that.

To make her six-week turn-it-deadline, Arbertson called upon nearly all of her expert contacts in Southern California to help out around the clock. "I had crews working 24 hours a day and we did kitchens, bathrooms, 10,000 square feet of flooring—every visible inch of the residence was remodeled and redone," she says. "The home looks like it's been there hundreds of years. Where you first walk in, it looks like an old, Italian villa. I wanted to create an aged interior that was very livable for three teenage boys. There's nothing in that house that can't be touched, life enjoyed, anywhere, and that was most important to me," she

Above and right: **The master bath features a French-reproduction soaking tub set against a window with more views. Attention to detail is evident throughout the room, from the custom-made shutters to the antique-style faucets. The bath is a fitting reflection of Atherton's private passion to collecting exotica of perfume bottles, which add a personal touch to the bedroom. Other fine** *items include an antique chandelier, a Chinoiserie cabinet to house the sound system and bath towels, and a round fixed table* **with a marble top and an array of bubble baths, candles, and other pleasures for the bath on top. A full vanity and shower bath allow for more space in relaxation. The drapery in the bathroom is also in Scalamandre silk to complete the focus** *vision look and feel of the space.*

says. And not a detail was overlooked, from the eight-step custom paint finishes on every wall of the house, to each individual vase, plant, and shower gel.

Atherton is sure to keep her home filled with flowers, including a large collection of orchids and fresh-cut blooms that are changed three times per week. "Flowers, candles, good food, and good music are the key elements in creating a sensual ambiance that nourishes your family spirit and creates your sanctuary," she says. And if the pleasures accompanying this story are any evidence, she is a woman who knows. ■

The table in the formal living room sits in an antique circle. "It's a very detailed fabric," says designer Ginger Morrow. "The more it wears, the better it looks." A 19th-century antique bench covered in a 19th-century needlepoint tapestry is used as a cocktail table. The sofa, which is a custom piece, is upholstered in a Scalamandre fabric. The Scalamandre fabric was used to complement the rose tones of the drapery, while Morrow had the secondary pillows custom-made from an 18th-century tapestry.