

House Calls

By KATHLEEN HOM

Turning a Playroom Into a Preteen Sanctuary



THE PROBLEM

“I'd like to transform this third-floor playroom into my daughter's preteen paradise.”

Homeowner: Kitty Carnahan of Chevy Chase, with daughter Callie; on this 34-by-14-foot space



THE SOLUTION

“Choose neutral colors on larger, more expensive pieces and have fun with inexpensive accessories.”

Designers: Kelcey Huff and Tracy Schlegel of Waterlily Interiors in Bethesda, 301-674-7763, www.waterlilyinteriors.com

NOW WHAT

Build new walls to replace the banister on the stairwell.

Divide the room into two areas. On one side of the stairwell is the rest area with a bed, and the other side is a space for doing homework and lounging with friends.

Make the ceiling appear taller with multiple paint colors and a wall graphic. The graphic balloons will draw eyes toward the ceiling.

Consider multifunctional furnishings such as a daybed with drawers for storage.

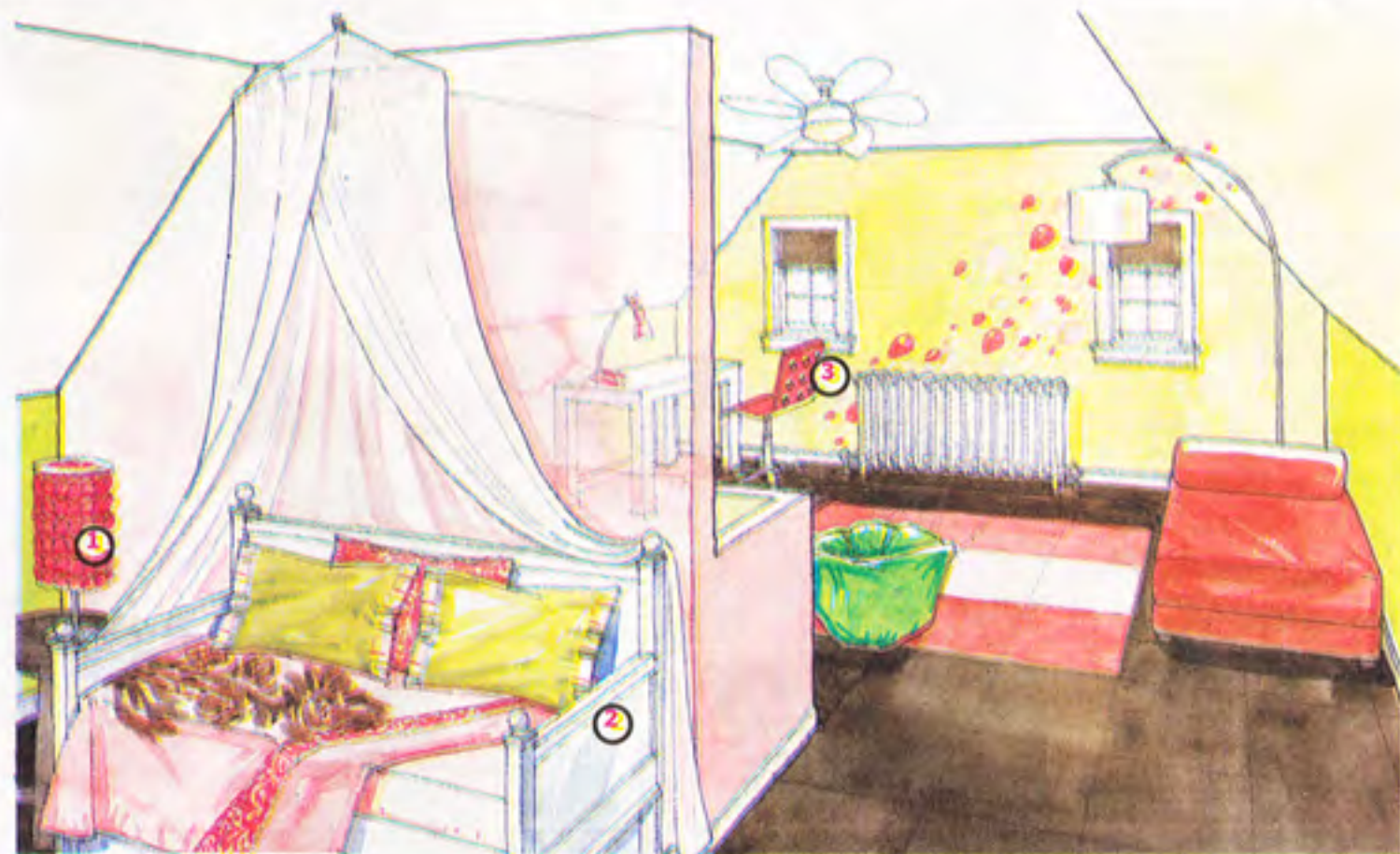


ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX GOLAND FOR THE WASHINGTON POST. "BEFORE" AND HOMEOWNER PHOTOS BY LEANE JONES FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

HOW TO GET THE LOOK



Portfolio pink coin shade table lamp (\$27, www.lowes.com).



Casey daybed in white by Fashion Bed Group (\$569, www.justdaybeds.com).



Jules junior desk chair in pink/silver (\$40, www.ikea-usa.com).

MORE IDEAS

Fresh Cut Grass paint color for walls, **Summer Lime** for eaves, **Eggshell** for ceiling and **Exotic Pink** for new wall. All from Benjamin Moore.

Lubi daybed in rust (\$799, www.cb2.com).

99 Luftballons wall graphic in tangerine and cotton candy (\$45 for each 211-piece packet in one color, www.whatisblik.com).

La Fleur de Boheme comforter cover (\$79 for twin, www.landofnod.com).

➔ See additional ideas at www.washingtonpost.com/housecalls.