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A T H O M E

Learn how these Seaside, Florida, shop owners decorate their small spaces with big style.



PHOTOGRAPHS: JEAN ALLSOPP

Shop owners Lynn Field Reddoch, Dorothy Baratta, and Cliff Holtermann have become authorities on making a big impact in a small space. Their stylish Seaside, Florida, businesses—one an interior design shop, the other an art-supply and toy store—



PHOTOGRAPH: LAUREY W. GLENN / STYLING: LISA POWELL

stand just across from one another on Quincy Circle and display interesting objects in small yet stylish surroundings. *(To page 30)*

left: Lynn Field Reddoch enjoys the fresh air outside her Seaside, Florida, design shop with dog T-bone. **top:** Lynn's porch makes a small apartment feel larger. **above:** Dorothy Baratta (center) and Cliff Holtermann and daughters Jessy and Rose take a moment from work and play to pose in their downstairs shop, Quincy.

The principles the owners use in their workplaces, from creative displays to careful consideration of traffic flow and arrangement, are the same ones they employ to make the most of their own homes, which are located just above their shops.

We asked Lynn, Dorothy, and Cliff to share their tips for living comfortably and efficiently when space is at a premium.



PHOTOGRAPHS: LAUREY W. GLENN / STYLING: LISA FOWELL

This Seaside home is chock-full of playful touches and innovative ideas. And that's just what you would expect from owners Dorothy Baratta and Cliff Holtermann, who run an art-supply and toy shop downstairs.

SHORE FUN

Their combination kitchen space (pictured on page 33) has the look and feel of one of the bright prints the couple sells. In fact, all around, fun furnishings contrast with the neutral palette.

Fanciful touches, such as the multi-colored chairs surrounding the table in

On the third floor of Dorothy and Cliff's home, an uncluttered living and dining area and lots of natural light from the windows give the space an open feel.

the kitchen, abound. Throw pillows in vivid accent colors complement the couch. There's even a sock monkey or two to join in the excitement.

The owners found some lighthearted and inexpensive ways to brighten the walls. In the kitchen, a series of food-related posters lines the walls. Adjacent to this space, the breakfast room features a chalkboard as its focal point. To provide additional visual interest, a brightly colored green partition and

header wall separate these two areas.

"The chalkboard serves both as a surface to create impromptu art and a great place to leave messages, make grocery lists, and scribble phone numbers," Dorothy says. It was also simple to make. (See page 33 for details.)

"Our goal in here was to create a fun and artistic space that was comfortable and highly functional," Dorothy says. Judging from the playful spirit, it seems they succeeded. *(To page 32)*



CHALKBOARD PROJECT

Making the chalkboard shown above was easy. The board is a piece of plywood cut to size; it is attached to the wall with bolts in a series of holes drilled along the plywood's edges. The piece was painted with chalkboard paint purchased from a local hardware store. An inexpensive pine frame forms a ledge for chalk storage. (For another fanciful chalkboard idea, turn to "From Our House to Yours," page 84.)



left: Here, a bedroom combines unexpectedly with a bath. **far left:** Note this excellent use of space: built-in shelves lining the concrete wall.

home,” according to architect Lourdes Reynafarje. Throughout, concrete walls, countertops, and floors provide a neutral backdrop for more colorful decor while also making the space seem larger than it is. The materials also easily withstand kids and constant traffic.

“We left a lot of the space somewhat raw and elemental, like the beach,” says designer Kris Childs. “But the result is not harsh—just simple, unfussy, and easy to care for.”



Furniture arrangement dictates how each area of this combination living space is used.



Lynn enjoys the challenge of designing for small spaces—most notably her own apartment, just upstairs from her shop (above, right).



PHOTOGRAPHS: JEAN ALLSOPP

While it's true that interior designer Lynn Reddoch has some big-name clients with big rooms to fill, she truly delights in creating designs for clients with smaller interiors, like those in her own home.

In Lynn's compact yet stylish beach apartment (located just above her design shop, Lynn Field/Reddoch Interior Design), small rooms called for big solutions.

ISLAND STYLE

“I had very little room, but I knew I wanted an island in my kitchen,” Lynn recalls.

She found an antique pine chest in Romania to serve as the island and cooktop (pictured on page 36). To make room for the cooktop, Lynn had the three horizontal drawers cut into thirds. Inside the chest, panels on either side of the middle drawers allowed the cooktop to be dropped into place, leaving the drawers on either side still operable. Utensils and dishes fit inside.

The pine bureau top makes a perfect chopping block, and stools pull up conveniently to the counter. For a decorative finish, Lynn used a piece of wood as the cooktop surround and faux-finished it to look like marble.

Another bright idea hangs just above the island. Here, an iron pot rack was custom wired with a series of light fixtures. The rack allows for convenient storage of pots while also providing task lighting. Complemented by a neutral decor, the island and pot rack make smart use of this small space.

TOP-NOTCH

It's not always easy at the top, but Lynn certainly makes it seem that way. As in the second-floor kitchen, Lynn utilized every bit of space possible for the tip-top apartment on the third floor (see photo at bottom of page 36). In fact, the small space sports an antique twin bed with trundle bed, a petite dining table with four chairs, and even a kitchenette.

The twin bed, situated against a wall, converts handily to a couch; by day it's piled high with plump pillows and fabric throws. Longer back cushions line the wall and serve as support. They can be removed or used as throw pillows at night.

The stylish 1920s Oriental card table and side chairs can easily fold up and be placed out of traffic flow when more space is needed. (Tip: Use this same concept in your own home by covering a card table with a lovely fabric.) (To page 36)