

VIETRI®

Inspiring Life, Italian Style

Romantic Accessories
TO UPDATE YOUR STYLE

CASUAL
ELEGANCE,
PERSONAL
STYLE

HOMES

82 WAYS
TO ADD COMFORT

Relax at
Home
SEE HOW

Easy
Elegance
LEARN FROM
THE EXPERTS

Fall Shopping
BEST TRENDS, FINDS
AND SHOPS IN THE U.S.

SEPTEMBER 2009 • VOLUME 22, NO. 9
\$5.99 US

0928103114 09

ROMANTICHOMES.COM

VIETRI®

Inspiring Life, Italian Style

house doesn't feel small. This is due in large part to Liza's decorating style, which she calls "cozy French beach cottage." Favoring light, airy colors like sky blue and strawberry red, the home is bursting with quaint personality, and Liza says that every time she enters her home it still makes her smile. Another trick, she says, is going for larger furniture than you would expect to use. After painting the walls a creamy neutral when they first moved in, she went for overstuffed and oversized furniture, which she says actually made the house feel larger.

A lack of space also breeds a good editor. She's learned from past decorating mistakes, and just as she's gotten in

touch with her family's needs in regards to living space, she's settled into her own style in regards to her home's décor.

"My style has evolved from the first house to this house," Liza says. "In fact, I consider myself a late bloomer when it comes to finding my true decorating style."

Her road to discovery was all about trial and error. In her larger former home, Liza was prone to impulse buys and choosing items she thought were in vogue—a case in point being an overstuffed, dark Persian motif chaise lounge. In this house, she has to be much more selective, and it's brought her closer to her true passions.

"I've always been drawn to cozy environments," she says. "In college, while everyone was doing their dorm rooms in party gear, I was trying to make my space feel cozy." The French influence found in the fabric patterns and furniture silhouettes can be traced to her mother, who always decorated in French country style at home, and the beach feel stuck ever since the '90s, when she made her first move from New York City to Southern California and fell in love with the laidback flip-flop lifestyle. Getting back in touch with these three elements has helped to create a warm, inviting space that is more reflective of her personality than ever.



Ever the risk taker with color and pattern, Liza chose bright-red striped armchairs to match the bookcases and opted for a French country floor cloth in the dining nook.

VIETRI®

Inspiring Life, Italian Style



Liza's prized vintage Vietri collection sits in a commanding country hutch.

VIETRI®

Inspiring Life, Italian Style



VIETRI®

Inspiring Life, Italian Style



One aspect of her character that comes into play is her propensity to take risks. Liza plays with color with abandon, resulting in a mix of elegance and whimsy. A wingback chair by the fireplace, for example, boasts a sophisticated shape upholstered in natural linen and wood trim that has been painted a light blue.

There's also a rustic quality to the interior with regard to the farmhouse touches, exposed beams and architectural salvage, but delicate vintage styling and accessories take center stage. The kitchen has a retro feel, with bright, colorful appliances and a few fun touches found in the fanciful garden gate that serves as the

kitchen door and bright red silk geranium flowers perched above the pot rack for added cheer. Another risk that turned into

(Opposite) The farmhouse table is a flexible dining option. Liza painted the chairs white and added a distressed finish to match the table.

Liza incorporates beach accessories for a summery feel.