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SIMPLICITY

accessories



Even a basic room becomes distinctive

when you swap out finishing touches, interior designer Barclay Butera says—the same way jewelry or a scarf transforms a simple black dress. “Accessories are inspiring,” he says. “Whatever I’m dreaming about influences my choices of art, textiles, and collections.” Working with timeless upholstered pieces and occasional tables, Butera shows you how to achieve three beautiful looks—simply by mixing accessories.

glam NOSTALGIA

A quick-change artist shares his strategies for transforming one living room into three distinctive, stylish havens—without altering any furniture.

Writer: **Brian Kramer** Photographer: **Michael Garland** Field editor: **Laura Hull**

classic **ELEGANCE**

Symmetry, deep color, and rich texture create a look that's formal but never fussy. Travel-inspired accents and exotic materials personalize the room and add intrigue.



put function first The cocktail table, left, dedicates space to entertaining as well as accessorizing. The bamboo-and-leather bar set suits the room's global vision while introducing a casual, studylike vibe.

connect and collect Three pillows—stripe, paisley, and raffia, top right—work as a collection of interesting patterns. How? They're unified by tones of tan and chocolate.

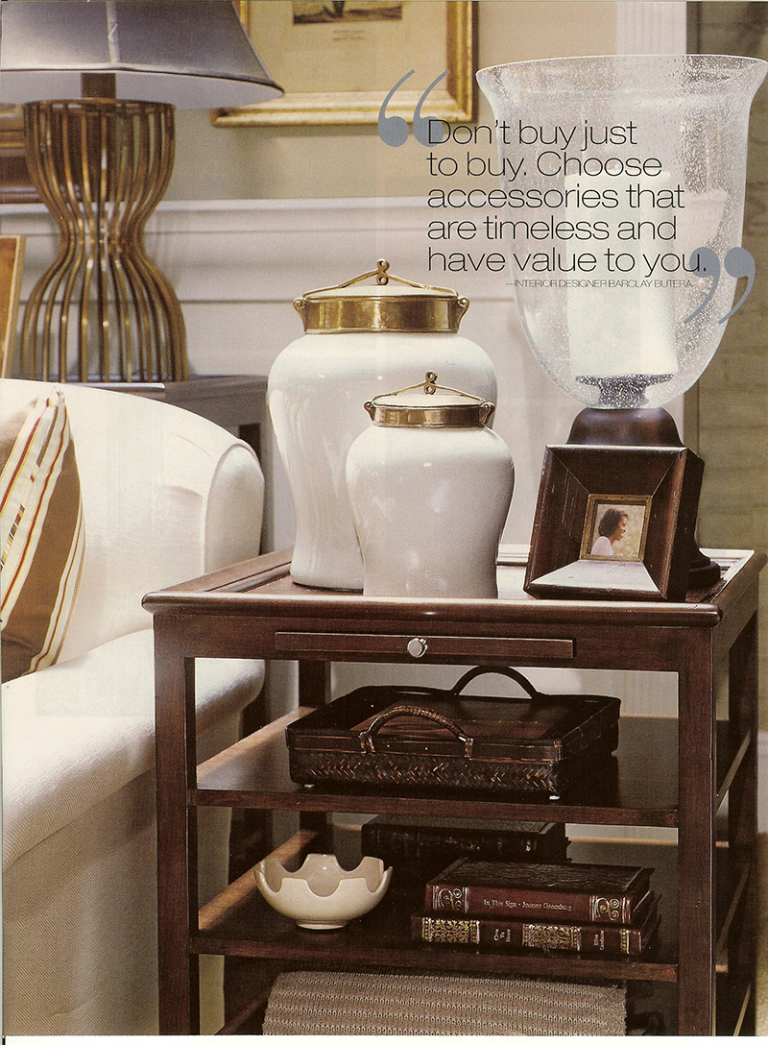
strike a balance A symmetrical arrangement of lamps, wicker balls, apothecary jars, and wall art, above, gives the room stability. "Plus, symmetrical arrangements are more appealing to the eye," Barclay Butera says.

lighten the load White ginger jars and a clear hurricane lamp, opposite, add what he calls "visual lift" and contrast the heft of a dark end table, stained baskets, and leather-bound books.

Photo and styling: © 2006 Barclay Butera and Associates, Inc. Photo: © 2006 Barclay Butera and Associates, Inc. Photo: © 2006 Barclay Butera and Associates, Inc.

“Don't buy just
to buy. Choose
accessories that
are timeless and
have value to you.”

—INTERIOR DESIGNER BARCLAY BUTERA



beach **SIMPLICITY**

Beautiful shades of blue mingle with coastal accents from Asia, the Mediterranean, and the United States for a seaside look that's sophisticated yet completely comfortable.



nod to nature Shells, starfish, and flowers are essential elements for beach style. The cocktail table, *left*, keeps the look fresh by mixing in green hydrangeas and touches of silver.

blend hues "You don't have to be locked into just one tone of a color," Butera says. Layer fabrics with multiple shades of blue, *top right*, for a casual, flexible color scheme.

expand your definition Although the botanical prints, *above*, aren't strictly beachy, the blue ink and expansive horizontal display visually connect with the room's classic coastal elements.

be subtle, too Filling a clear jar with a collection and resting a favorite item atop a book or two, *opposite*, are two ways Butera displays treasures in a casual yet eye-catching manner.

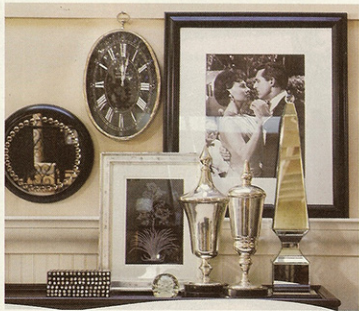
“Beachy can be sophisticated but must be attainable.”

—BARCLAY BUTERA



glam NOSTALGIA

Black, white, and lots of shine give this look a chic, fashion-forward flair. Hollywood photos, retro clocks, and animal prints warm the room and inject vintage sophistication.



let it shine "Create depth by combining reflective surfaces, just as you would various colors or textures," Butera says, noting the coffee table's mix of mirror, mercury glass, crystal, and metal. **add a touch of black** Glam looks are grounded in dramatic dashes of black. "But don't take black too seriously," Butera advises. Go for unexpected, even whimsical touches of black such as a feather pillow, *top right*.

go for flow Asymmetrical arrangements work best when the eye can move easily from top to bottom or right to left. The shape and shine of clocks, the overlapped frames, and the cluster of silver objects, *above*, create a visual road map for enjoying this display of art and accessories.

get personal Books and collections—such as the vintage desk items and fashion- and design-theme tomes, *opposite*—are always in style. Use them to showcase your interests.

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“Whimsical accessories displayed in a less structured way allow you to enjoy the space and the style.”

—BARCLAY BUTERA

