

# NATURALMIX

Natural textures and an organic palette  
bring comfort to a New Jersey townhouse



**NATURAL COMBINATIONS** Opposite page: Billy Baldwin-style chairs covered in green mohair and textural Madagascar cloth surround a McGuire glass-topped bamboo-base dining table with tortoise-shell finish. Above: In the family room, the long line of the 10-foot-long custom sofa is broken with a pair of Chinese chests from ANK Antiques.



**THE COLLECTED ROOM** A 1920s Chinese Art Deco carpet anchors a living room furnished with a Ming temple cabinet, a 1940s mirrored commode, and Philippe Starck's see-through Eros chair from Conran. Cocktail table from Custom Steel, Occasional chairs by Michael Berman for Profiles.



**RELAXED RETREAT**

Above: Wall-to-wall Berber carpeting and long, flannel-lined linen curtains from Emily Todd Hunter create a sense of intimacy in the master bedroom. The steel-armed Italian chair reclines. Below, left: Custom bedding is from Lillian August.



QUIET COLORS BORROWED FROM NATURE ARE THE KEY TO UNITY IN THIS Essex County, New Jersey, townhouse—the newly constructed, 2,500-square-foot “nest” of a pair of collectors looking to downsize from their former family-size home to something more contemporary for just the two of them. “These clients were collectors and frequent entertainers who felt at ease mixing different periods and styles—from Asian and French antiques to contemporary furniture made of Plexiglas, polycarbonate, and steel,” says designer Gerald C. Tolomeo. To maintain continuity, Tolomeo selected an organic palette of taupe, brown, charcoal, and “porcini mushroom,” punctuated with soft greens and chartreuse. To warm the high-ceilinged, 12-by-15 foot family room, he designed a 10-foot-long sofa that allows for his-and-hers reading corners. And he covered the adjoining dining room’s low ceiling with shimmering metallic-leaf paper. “Interesting rooms are never totally modern and never totally traditional,” says the designer. “They are multifaceted—but always completely comfortable and completely personal.” — See Resources.