

# Southern home™

Homes  
for the  
HOLIDAYS

NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2017 VOLUME 3, ISSUE 6

\$12.99US \$14.99CAN



25274 01696 9

DISPLAY UNTIL JANUARY 29, 2018

FESTIVE IDEAS FOR EVERY ROOM  
LUXE GIFTS TO GIVE  
THE BEST IN HOLIDAY DECORATING

Previous pages, left to right: In the entry hall, Abbott placed a gilded French settee covered in a ticking stripe, a signature blend of fine and humble. In the loggia, floral designer Jonathan Andrew Sage accented the monochromatic space with mixed green garland. These pages, opposite: Abbott created the color-block dining chairs using two colors of linen fabric. Below: The front entrance features precisely manicured topiaries and hedges. Right: In the living room, a weathered gilt mirror from France presides over an intimate conversation area. Bottom right: Sage hung small boxwood wreaths on the breakfast room chairs.



The houses best suited to the decorations of Christmas lie at the extremes of the design spectrum. Either they emit a warm and cozy vibe from details such as paneled walls, intricate tapestries, and roaring fireplaces, or, like this house in the Museum District of Houston, they are minimalistic, providing a blank canvas for the display of holiday trappings. The simple symmetrical windows and lofty rooms of this Mediterranean-style house offer even more decorating options both inside and out.

Houston interior designer Renea Abbott created the home as temporary quarters for a family after their permanent house burned down seven years ago, coincidentally during the holidays. "It's nothing at all like their primary residence," says Abbott. "That was much more formal with mohair upholstery and rich-hued rugs. This house is all linen and sisal." The designer, who launched Shabby Slips in 1991, has been a groundbreaking force in the Houston design scene, helping shape the look of casual, comfortably dressed furniture with fine art that



In the family room, tight-back armchairs in Michael S. Smith's Jasper Indian Flower block-print fabric mingle with a cowhide-covered ottoman. Checked curtains amp up the warmth for winter. Top right: A collection of weathered-wicker outdoor seating surrounds a trestle table to extend the living spaces outdoors. An antique table in the family room displays photographs of the Ervins' children.

