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# Lullaby for Lulu

"MAYBE THIS IS THE

most serene room in the house, and some experts say it should be the opposite, but our baby needs a place to have some peace and quiet," says Marcy Spanogle Hawley, mother of peekaboo princess Tallulah "Lulu" Quinn, LEFT.

An independent soul, Marcy didn't buy into the trend toward encouraging baby's senses with bright patterns and glaring black-and-white contrasts in the nursery.

"Lulu gets plenty of stimulation from the rest of the house, which is saturated with color, collections, and clutter," she assures us. Instead, for Lulu's bower, she chose subtle shades—a creamy crib, whisper-pale linens, and paint colors so luscious, "it was like working with ice cream."

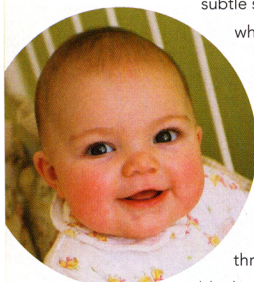
It sounds easy, but the process took several months to unfold. After running through a litany of possible themes—woodland fairies,

botanicals, buttons and bows—Marcy couldn't find harmonizing accessories in colors that she liked. "And I thought, does the baby really care that these are vintage buttons framed in French ribbon? What would baby want?" Suddenly, the answer was clear. "To sleep."

So Marcy headed to the fabric store and scooped up a whimsical toile fabric in a mélange of greens, gold, and honey. Then she let the whole room extend from that palette. "I felt kind of free after that."

## Crib Some Ideas

RIGHT: Never one to pick the most obvious thing, Marcy's "research" eventually led her to the website [www.PoshTots.com](http://www.PoshTots.com), which offers retro-looking iron cribs that meet all of today's safety standards (and some convert to tot beds). Perhaps best of all, the company can shape the linens of your choice into whatever bedding your sleep-deprived brain desires. In this case, they exactly followed Marcy's recipe. This new mom feels it's worth splurging on a crib. "Your baby is just a baby once. And the crib is so appealing, every time I pass it, I want to climb in!"



## Baby's Booty

ONE "The one thing we really saved money on was this trash-heap dresser from one of Patrick's old roommates," Marcy says. Patrick sanded it down and revamped it with oil gloss paint. Posed in a vase is a Steiff terrier puppet from Marcy's girlhood. "I chewed off its ear tag, making it not worth much." We also love the roly-poly vintage cookie jar and silhouette of Lulu at three weeks by Washington state artist Sharyn Sowell. TWO Mama painted these alphabet illustrations as an alternative to an A-Z frieze lettered directly on the wall. They're thriftily matted on left-over glider fabric. THREE St. Louis artist Joanne Kluba of Paperbirds handcrafted this album using bookbinding papers and Marcy's own stash of buttons, rickrack, and ribbon. Marcy's mother's first dining implements rest on top. FOUR To appreciate this detail, see page 73, which shows the entire wall grouping that Marty cleverly created. She started with a large frame containing pre-existing artwork, which she replaced with appealing silk-screened paper. Then she wired on smaller frames old and new. Some display images of Lulu; others, like this thrift-store celluloid octagon, house antique illustrations.



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