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# Baby & Me

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ISSUE  
ONE

THE PREMIER PREGNANCY AND BABY GUIDE

# Baby's First Room

CONTEMPLATING NURSERY DESIGNS BUT HITTING A BRICK WALL WHEN IT COMES TO INSPIRATION? GET IDEAS FROM THE EXPERTS AND DESIGN YOURSELF A NURSERY TO WELCOME YOUR LITTLE MUNCHKIN.

by bhuvu narayanan



image freshhouse

## Comfortably Quirky

Soothing yet original, modern yet eco-friendly—these are some ideas that inspired Chelsea Reale to design this room. The artsy wallpaper that's unique, but doesn't overwhelm, provides the perfect backdrop for the various distinct elements such as the ceiling lamp, rugs of varying textures and idiosyncratic toys.

Designer says: "Covered in Baby Elephant Walk wallpaper by Jill Malek, dripping in beautifully designed furniture by Oeuf's, and finished with Sissy + Marley's custom wall art, this room is pure delight. The striped ceiling, skin rug, and quirky dolls and pillows give the room a fun and edgy spin."

Make it your own: Attention to detail is key in this design. While the mismatched toys and accessories add an interesting dimension to the room, you run the risk of it looking cluttered. To make the nursery

stand out while staying true to your artsy self, create a good balance between basic pieces and more artistically detailed ones.

[www.sissyandmarley.com](http://www.sissyandmarley.com)

## Curated Classic

Megan Reith-Menard wanted to create a timeless, put-together nursery after being inspired by Japanese lanterns. A coral and lavender fabric by designer Amy Butler also impelled her to incorporate a similar colour scheme into her design. The juxtaposition of classic colours such as a soft lavender, coral and peach, with pops of colours provided by the collection of lanterns, the cot and the cushions creates a comforting yet fresh look to the room.

Designer says: "I wanted a curated, collected feel to the room and while I was browsing books and magazines, I was sparked by an image I found in a Serena and Lily book of two Japanese lanterns hanging

in a window. I was inspired and started collecting paper lanterns and spheres. Piece by piece I found the items I wanted to see in the room and my daydreams came to life."

Make it your own: Stick to understated colours for the walls, and find items that deliver a contemporary edge to the room. This way, you have your classic nursery with a twist. Adding one artistic element as the centrepiece helps to bring attention to your own interests and creativity. Make sure the artwork can be moved into another space in the house in case your child wants to change the room's design in the future.

[www.freshhouse.ca/home](http://www.freshhouse.ca/home)

## Modern Rustic

Designer Katie Lombardi aspires towards a modern design with clean lines, which incorporated natural materials to create a pastoral feel. To her, creating spaces using a variety of textures and patterns give each

image marco ricca

space a unique look and feel. The darker colours, nature-inspired art, with basic wooden cot and matching furniture in white, coordinate harmoniously to create this sleek look.

Designer says: “I wanted it to be clean and fresh mixed in with natural elements and texture. The area rug was the first element of inspiration. I wanted to create a child’s space but not have it feel overly themed.”

Make it your own: Stick to a few basic colours that veer towards nature to capture the ruggedness of the outdoors, but choose modern furniture with minimal or symmetrical patterns to bring it all together. Minimalist designs work very well with the muted colours found in rustic designs.

[www.kdinteriors.co](http://www.kdinteriors.co)



image kd interiors

### Jungle Eclectic

Karly Hand wanted a nursery that was fun, welcoming for her young son Eero. Her design is heavily inspired by tigers, creating a jungle theme that’s executed very playfully. The heavy use of the colours black, white and yellow create a uniform colour scheme that works very well to incorporate the theme into the design. The beautiful collection of art on the walls lends to the upbeat atmosphere.

Designer says: “I wanted to create a room that didn’t feel overly “boy” or “girl” just fun and welcoming. I also wanted to create a room that Eero could grow in to. The art and decor are all pieces that a four-year-old can enjoy just as much as an infant.”

Make it your own: Decide on the major colours that reflect the theme you



image karly hand

want to portray, and don’t be afraid of being variety. The goal is to create an eclectic feel; an assortment of unique accessories can do just that.

[www.karlyhand.com](http://www.karlyhand.com)

### Bold Versatility

The trend towards gender-neutral nurseries and her love of playful designs inspired Toronto-based Dvira Ovadia to create this colourful nursery. The delightful feature wall as a strong backdrop against classic and neutral furniture makes for a radiant atmosphere. The furniture is picked with versatility in mind, so that the family may use it in the years to come, and the fun décor will appeal to your child as he grows.

Designer says: “Going for a look that’s a little less baby, and a little more

playful allows you to bridge those years from baby and toddler to pre-schooler and more. Allowing your room to grow with you child makes it worthwhile investing in a fun and fabulous pieces.”

Make it your own: Go big with vivid colours—your kids will love them for years to come. Invest in elegant furniture that last for years and colours that will fit in with many design concepts. A feature wall adds vibrancy to the room, and you can be creative with the designs.

[www.dvira.com](http://www.dvira.com)

### Transitional Elegance

Catherine Lucy-Horber was looking for a timeless design that could accommodate a family’s changing needs when she put this nursery together. Wanting to include the baby’s older sibling was factored into the design as well. The bunk bed with storage also serves as a bed for the child as he grows older. The grey wallpaper contrasts beautifully with the soft rug in the room, and the subtle theme means that the child will be able to decorate the room to his or her liking as time goes by.

Designer says: “Designing a room for baby number one is totally different than number two. As there are different demands in the household that need to be addressed, your life has changed and also your experience from the first one. All the elements were carefully chosen to last a long time.”

Make it your own: Play around with textures and patterns to create a fashionable yet elegant feel. The baby’s nursery is where you will spend many hours as a parent, so include elements that cater to your needs as well. Sturdy, timeless furniture and artwork will do that. Choose neutral designs so that you can leave options open for your tot to decide for himself when he’s older.

[www.royalinteriordesign.ca](http://www.royalinteriordesign.ca)



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