

805 LIVING

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Kids
COVER TO COVER



GO TO YOUR ROOM!



Design ideas cool enough for teens (but not too weird for parents).

Teenagers need their space, so Calabasas-based interior designer **Elizabeth Ribons** created **Eye4dzyn** to offer design solutions that keep both teens and parents happy. Ribons shares some design tips while her daughter, Hilary, 18, weighs in with the teenage POV.

805 LIVING: Your company motto is “look like everyone else, live like everyone else, be like everyone else, or get an Eye4dzyn.” How does that translate into bedroom design?

ELIZABETH RIBONS: Teens admire—if nothing else—being authentic, being true to yourself, and communicating who you are to the world. What better place than your own living space? The place you can go to relax, escape, create, [and] be with friends. It should be unique, cool, chill, ugly, or beautiful. It should be authentic, real, and not look like a designer did it.

805: What’s the biggest misconception parents have about designing rooms for teenagers?

ER: Themes. Adding accessories that lean toward a theme is okay but a room with matching “themed everything” will not last throughout the teen’s high school years. Having expensive custom furniture made is a waste of money because the style of the teen might change a year later. Go with furniture that is simple enough to be versatile. Pottery Barn Teen (www.pbteen.com) has some nice pieces. IKEA (www.ikea.com) is always innovative and fun. eBay (www.ebay.com)—no joke—you can find great pieces that you can paint and create something that no one else has.

805: What is a “safe” age to go from kid room to almost-adult? What are some design ideas that will transition as the kid ages?

ER: It is best to change it around 14. That will get them through high school.

- Don’t use wallpaper, do not over-stylize the window treatments. Use accessories to add character to the room, then change them out as needed.
- Give them a color on the walls they really like.
- Get the real pop or punch from bedding, pillows, rugs, and then a fun item like a light fixture.
- Hang a big bulletin board and supply cool pushpins and sticky notes for the teen to create an ever-changing collage of items.
- For a larger room, put the bed in the middle of the room and attach drapery fabric above each corner of the bed allowing it to reach the floor. This provides a four-poster bed look without the expense.
- Add big pillows in the middle of the bed for just hanging out on.
- Metallic paint on the ceiling or one wall is a great detail. (Try “platinum” from Benjamin Moore.)

805: Hilary, what does your room look like?

HILARY RIBONS: My room is a mixture of classic and romantic styles. My mom and I worked together to design it. The most important thing for both of us was to create a room that was functional as well as indicative of my personality.

805: What do you like best about your room?

HR: I feel like my room is my sanctuary, because it is important to me to have a space of my own where I can relax, work on homework, and spend time with friends.

805: What do parents need to understand about teenagers’ bedrooms?

HR: Although a room’s design may seem unimportant to [the parents], it is yet another way for teens to express themselves as they try to discover who they are and what they want to become.

805: What advice would you give to the parents of a friend who didn’t like her design style?

HR: [I’d tell them she’ll] be off to college soon enough, and to let her enjoy her room while she’s still living there.

Elizabeth Ribons is owner of Eye4dzyn, an interior design business in Calabasas that specializes in designing for teenagers. Call 818-522-2051 or visit www.i4dzyn.com.



Pro Picks:

The serene and smiling **FAITH BUDDHA LAMP** (\$30) sends you off into peaceful dreamland. Available at www.buddhabuddhalife.com.

Customized Warhol-esque **POP ART** (you supply the photos) from \$170. Available at www.photowow.com.

Pottery Barn Teen’s flirty and fun **INTERLOCKING CIRCLES** lampshade (\$35; in pink, blue, or green) tops the **BUBBLE UP** lamp base (\$59; in white or blue). Available at www.pbteen.com.



»» Upgrades



Our Picks:

Crisp, clean, and sophisticated; yet still fun: the **CABANA** collection from Ducduc includes the canopy twin bed and bolster pillows (\$2,145), credenza (\$1,695), lounge chair (\$1,295), and armoire (\$2,195) in hardwood with a white finish (some items also available with custom upholstery and contrasting colors). Available at *Juvenile Shop*, 13356 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks, 818-986-6214; or at *Bel Bambini*, 464 N. Robertson Blvd., West Hollywood, 310-855-9272; or at www.ducducnyc.com.

With enough whimsy to satisfy teen tastes but enough sophistication to transition into adult years, the **CHRYSSIE** chair (\$380) from Pier 1 Imports is the perfect perch from which to muse about the important things in life. Available at *Pier 1 Imports*, 33 N. Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks, 805-497-7448; or 6500 Canoga Ave., Canoga Park, 818-887-9652; or 135 W. Ventura Blvd., Camarillo, 805-445-9218; or 4900 Telephone Road, Ventura, 805-650-1089 or www.pier1.com.

Invest in some removable art that can (non-permanently) change furniture and walls as the spirit moves you, like the large-scale **ANISE** wall graphics (\$65) from Bilk. Available at www.whatisblik.com.

Mystical, magical, and fun—fiery colors ignite the charcoal background of the **FIREGLOW** bedding—duvet (queen, \$298), standard shams (\$88), and bedskirt (\$98). Available at *Anthropologie at The Oaks*, 502 W. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, 805-230-2900; or at *Simi Valley Town Center*, 1555 Simi Town Center Way, Simi Valley, 805-306-0342; or 1123 State St., Santa Barbara, 805-962-5461 or www.anthropologie.com.

Stash extra junk in the **STORAGE OTTOMAN** (\$20; other colors available) to tidy up in a snap. Available at local *Target* locations and at www.target.com.

Aged caning decorates the doors of the **CELINE** armoire (\$1,999) from Newport Cottages, which hide a removable clothes-hanging rod and two adjustable shelves. Available at *Alpert's Kidz Interiors*, 28501 Canwood St., Agoura Hills, 818-865-8111.