

Crown Jewel

DESIGNER PEBBLES NIX PAYS HOMAGE TO FAMILY TRADITION AND PERSONAL PASSIONS WHILE CURATING A FOREVER HOME FOR HER FAMILY.

TEXT LAUREN GENTRY WALKER
PHOTOGRAPHY JOHN O'HAGAN



When Atlanta-based designer, Pebbles Nix, took on the project of updating her home, she decided there was no

time like the present to create a family-friendly haven perfect for welcoming and hosting loved ones. As self-proclaimed extroverts, Nix, her husband Robert, and their young son Guy, knew they would need a space to entertain their groups of friends and prepare their once-a-month extended family dinners. “We wanted it to be a fun and happy home,” says Nix. “You can feel comfortable in every room. We use the entire house, and that’s what we wanted.”

The designer first discovered her love of interiors and décor from her late mother. From her knowledge of antiques to her natural way of creating a welcoming atmosphere, Nix says her mother made sure her family always had a comfortable yet beautiful place to come home to. After moving to Atlanta to enroll in design school, Nix ended up making the city her permanent residence and gained experience by working for a residential designer and a hospitality design firm before striking out on her own in 1998 and opening Pebbles Nix Interiors in 2005.

When Nix and her family first moved into their home, they realized it needed a little more work than they originally thought. After taking a couple of years to mull over their wants and needs for the property, they then began working with Wright Marshall, owner of Revival Construction, on the design and architecture before beginning the renovations. “After my mother passed away, I channeled my grief into my design work and rebranding to Pebbles Nix Interiors,”



Previous pages: Designer Pebbles Nix says guests typically enter through the back of her home and the newly designed pink bar. "I knew I wanted to paint it pink," says Nix. "It's like a little jewel box—a friend of mine first called it that." The piece of rose artwork that sits on the bar was painted by Nix's late mother. Above and left: The fireplace in the living room was updated during the remodel and given a new design with white marble and antique sconces. Below: The home was originally painted colonial blue and had white trim. Nix chose to repaint with Sherwin-Williams' Intellectual Gray. Opposite: In the dining room, Nix chose a subdued pattern for the walls to allow the pink chairs to pop. The gilded chandelier is from Interiors Market and the round table is from Holland & Co.





Above and opposite, top: Nix says the den is the heart of her house and has plenty of natural light. Left: The patio furniture belonged to Nix's grandmother. Opposite, from left to right: The kitchen cabinets were painted a creamy white. A jar of Lance Crackers also sits in the space, paying homage to a special part of Nix's family history. The now public company originated in her family, and each member keeps a jar in their home. The powder room is adorned with red wallpaper and Nix's son's portrait of her is framed next to the mirror.

says Nix. "It's truly been a labor of love." The family knew they needed to replace the house's windows and siding and wanted to remodel the powder room, which also acts as a laundry room. They worked with an architect to elevate the rustic colonial exterior to a more formal colonial look and added plenty of creative and functional updates.

While the designer says she loves all of the rooms in her home too much to pick a favorite, each space is filled with special touches, family heirlooms, and storied pieces. Nix has a passion for mixing the old with the new and wanted each room to have a combination of things she grew up with and things she and her husband have collected together. "I really feel like every room needs a touch of whimsy," she says. One of the house's most eye-catching details—the pink bar area—is not only a tribute to Nix's favorite color, but also to her grandmother, Pinky, and her mother, Pokey, who also shared a passion for the





happy hue. The vibrant space opens up onto the patio, which is outfitted with pink chairs and makes the ultimate statement when guests enter the home.

The theme of family history continues throughout the house, while Nix and Marshall also worked to make each space feel intentional and cozy. In the living room, an updated white marble fireplace balances the warm caramel and pink tones. The round, black decoupage coffee table belonged to Nix's mother, while one of the antique side tables belonged to her husband's family. The designer says the den is the heart of the house and acts as a family hangout and breakfast area. The art above the custom sofa was a fixture in Nix's childhood home, and watercolor paintings of her dogs flank each side of it. The light and bright kitchen only required creamy white paint on the cabinets and new hardware from the Matthew Quinn Collection. "The renovation process was so great for me to experience, because it gave me more insight for my clients," says Nix. "It really was not a stressful project, and we couldn't be happier with the way it turned out."

Above left: A small, serene guest room is furnished with feminine touches and a peaceful color palette of greens, blues, and lilacs. Above right: A sitting nook outside the master bedroom is complete with a blue-and-white settee and some of Nix's mother's porcelain collection. Opposite, clockwise from top: The master bedroom has a peaceful atmosphere with blue-gray bedding and newly added built-ins that add plenty of storage. The master bathroom features unlacquered brass fixtures and floor tiles that mimic weathered wood.

