

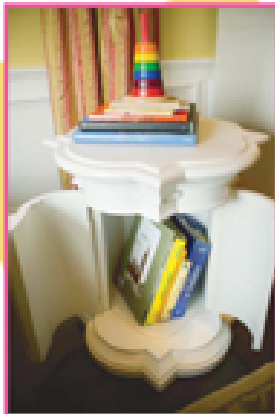
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FALL DECORATING, GARDENING IDEAS



Three-year-old Chloe Brown Monchamp's room has many practical storage options including her bed, side tables and window seat. Her father, Ryan Brown, left, is an interior designer who stars on Brown's reality show "Flipping Out." They share the Hollywood Hills home with Brown's partner, Dale Monchamp, right.



A flea market find, top, is used as both a side table and book storage in Chloe's room. Above, dolls find a home in a storage nook that is part of the bed.

MORE IN STORE

Create a family-friendly space that keeps things contained, but accessible

By Sandra Barrows Staff Writer

Photos by Andy Holzman Staff Photographer

Every night, before she goes to sleep, Chloe Brown Monchamp puts her "Baby Muttler" inside a cabinet above her bed for safe-keeping.

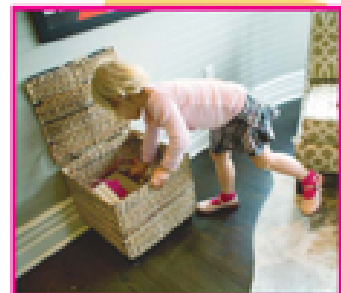
The 3-year-old has hiding places all over.

But step outside of Chloe's bedroom and these books reveal an idiosyncrasy as the rest of the kid-friendly details of the home, located in an area of Hollywood Hills called the Oaks.

It can be a vintage column side table with doors or an easy-to-clean embossed steel ottoman with rounded corners, but interior designer Ryan Brown says incorporating these elements into the home doesn't have to mean sacrificing the overall aesthetic.

"Ultimately, what you're trying to do is make it look like it's just another part of the house," he says.

Brown is best known as cohost of Brown's do-over series "Flipping Out," about a local



A woven storage cube serves as a toy bin in the family room, which makes the home more kid-friendly.



When she returns home from preschool, the blond, blue-eyed girl settles at the large kitchen island for a peanut butter and jelly sandwich before rifling through her storage spaces. She pulls out cups of different colors from her bottom kitchen drawer at the request of Daddy and Papa, Brown and Monchamp, respectively.

And then it's upstairs to her large bedroom, with its white furniture, built-in window seat with storage, bejeweled chandelier and a quality wool rug.

"What is great," Brown says, "is she starts up really well so if she starts up anything on it, I can get it out."

"So, it's also about choice of fabrics."

For many of his clients with young children, Brown uses Sunbrella outdoor fabrics for his interiors. He had considered it for the sofa in the family room, but the brand wasn't an option.

So, he went with a vibrant pattern on a light-colored fabric for the sign-off covers.

"Being able to remove the covers and throw them in the washer, because there certainly are accidents, is a big thing," he says. "But if you have to fully upholstery, then

Sunbrella is a great option."

Back downstairs in the family room, Chloe is going through the storage cubes, pulling her belongings onto the chair seat to bring a construction-paper ghost that's sitting on a toy, a plastic handbag and a Barbie cell phone among them.

"It'll be honest: The house doesn't always look perfect," Brown says.

"There might be a stack of stuff at the bottom of the stairs, but that just means when you go upstairs, you pick up a couple of things and take them with you."

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trying to flip houses, which just completed its third season. Brown has featured his aunt with Chloe in mind, the and his partner, Dale Monchamp, moved their daughter and chocolate Labrador, Jordan, into the 1940 stone house two years ago.

The family had been living in the hills above the Sunset Strip, with its practically vertical streets that made the borrowing outings with Chloe.

"You can imagine the sheer horror of trying to step out on the street with a newborn in a stroller and trying to navigate these roads," Brown says. "It's not the most walkable area in town."

Because Brown was heavily involved with flipping houses

"The other thing is just keeping storage down low for her as opposed to on a shelf somewhere. If you give your child a designated area, you keep things contained."

— Ryan Brown

at the time, he was able to relocate his family to a open house that a few months while he did some house-hunting. It wasn't long until he found "the perfect family house" on a hilly out-of-tac.

The \$9 million home had belonged to only one other family since it was built in the '40s.

After moving in, Brown

transformed the plain interior of the 3,000-square-foot house into an airy four-plan embellished with wall-mounting, hardwood flooring, new windows and doors.

It brought together a mix of styles, such as British Colonial and a musical charm as translated through design elements such as a ship's searchlight, wall-mounted

airs and seashells throughout.

But he also reconfigured spaces to better suit his family's needs, including opening up the kitchen to the family room and providing Chloe with lots of accessible storage.

"A lot of people have these boxes that look like obvious child hibernation, but with something like this," Brown says, lifting the lid off a woven storage cube in the family room, "you'd never know it, but this is her go-to place for tucking things away."

"The other thing is just keeping storage down low for her as opposed to on a shelf somewhere," he adds, opening the bottom drawer of the entertainment center where, among other things, Wii remote controls are kept. "If you give your child a designated area, you keep things contained."

Ryan Brown, right, and Dale Monchamp have created plenty of easy-access storage in their home for daughter Chloe, such as drawers beneath the window seat in her room, above, and a space for her dishes in the kitchen, left.

Andy Rotman Staff Photographer

