

# THE EXPERTS

Next Wave . Instant Room . Master Class

Sabbe likes to unwind at Butchertown Hall, one of her favorite restaurants in Nashville.

NEXT WAVE

## Throwback Queen

In her quest to turn unassuming vintage castoffs into her clients' most cherished possessions, Nashville designer Stephanie Sabbe creates charm-filled rooms that pay tribute to the interiors of yesteryear.

WRITER HILLARY BROWN PHOTOGRAPHER TEC PETAJIA HAIR AND MAKEUP ROSEMARY STUNKEL OF FRESH SALON. FORMORE DETAILS, SEE RESOURCES

# THE EXPERTS

Twin beds from Land of Nod are paired with West Elm linens.



## NEXT WAVE

**“I LOVE DUSTY ANTIQUES SHOPS** that require popping allergy meds before visiting,” says 34-year-old Nashville native Stephanie Sabbe. “It’s my sport, and I enjoy the hunt!” Although her background lies in commercial design (with stints at Boston and Memphis firms), Sabbe now stays loyal to her granny-chic sensibilities—so deeply rooted that she collected teapots in college. “Nothing says ‘hip undergrad’ like a wall of hand-painted teapots!” she jokes. But these quirky finds are precisely what make her spaces feel as if they’ve been curated over generations, as in this boy’s room (left), with its military chest-turned-bedside table and trove of rugged vintage art. Turns out granny chic is just *chic*.

## A FEW OF STEPHANIE’S OBSESSIONS

▼ **MELIA NECKLACE**  
“Statement pieces add a punch of color to my all-black outfits.” [stelladot.com](http://stelladot.com)

▼ **BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
“The Harvard-esque reading room is magical—like a museum you get to touch and use.”

“  
When in doubt, paint it white—it fixes almost anything. My favorite: Benjamin Moore’s Chantilly Lace.”

▲ **GUSTAVIAN SIDE TABLE**  
“I love clean lines. ‘Scandinavian country’ is my kind of thing.” [chelsea.textiles.com](http://chelsea.textiles.com)

◀ **OPI NAIL POLISH IN BUBBLE BATH**  
“Ever since I wore this at my wedding, it’s become my go-to color. I work with my hands, so I like that it’s low-maintenance and clean.” [opi.com](http://opi.com)



◀ **FANG GOURD LAMP**  
“This can go modern or traditional, and the aged brass lends a nice patina to the mix.” [circalighting.com](http://circalighting.com)

▼ **BLUE ROOM PLATES**  
“A friend’s grandma hung these in her kitchen. They add a wonderful vintage feel.” [spode.com](http://spode.com)

◀ **KENSINGTON SOFA**  
“Chesterfields are timeless and comfortable and have great character.” [restorationhardware.com](http://restorationhardware.com)

