

the
cottage
journal

Summer ISSUE

80+
FRESH
& Relaxed
IDEAS

*Come Home
to Coastal
Comfort*

Retreat to the Porch for
OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING



FEATHER YOUR NEST



Designer Sarah Hayes shares that the key to creating a stylish porch that marries function and fashion is to ensure ample seating. "Create a seamless connection from indoors to outdoors. The use of upholstered furniture and accessories makes the exterior feel very much like a cozy outdoor room," she says. "Garden stools can be used as additional seating when needed and also make a wonderful side table on a porch as they can be easily moved around. And incorporate a sofa whenever possible, as porches are the ultimate place to take a restful nap!"

Vintage VIBE

Inspired by a retro Schumacher fabric, Magnolias in Citron & Peacock designed by Paul Poiret, interior designer Sarah Hayes gives this Maryland porch a modern makeover with a 1920s twist.



Consider ways to create the feeling of a more secluded retreat. "If your porch design allows for a lattice screen, you can grow clematis, ivy, or other climbing vines up the lattice, and you'll get some wonderful greenery along with privacy," Sarah says. "[You can also] create custom curtain panels, such as we did on this project. The panels help filter light and create privacy. We layered curtains over lattice for additional texture."



To make the porch feel most cohesive to your home's interiors, Sarah suggests arranging the outdoor furniture just as you would indoors to create a comfortable and conversational seating area, with plenty of accessories. "Be sure to include table surfaces for setting down drinks," she says. "Layer them with fresh flowers, candles, and accessories to make your space feel more personal. In this project, I included a vintage brass tortoise box sourced through a local retailer."

Utilizing indoor-outdoor fabrics on your cottage porch, such as the Serena & Lily fabrics on the main upholstered pieces on this porch, adds durability and fade resistance. "Perennials and Sunbrella are great sources for these types of fabrics, too," Sarah says. The cheerful white-and-yellow pattern exudes a sunny summer welcome. "Add texture with throw blankets draped on furniture; they're perfect for bundling up on cool evenings," she adds. (Below) An additional table or bar cart on the porch is ideal for outdoor entertaining and keeps beverages and snacks readily available for guests.



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DESIGNER SARAH HAYES
Interior designer Sarah Hayes is a mother of four and understands the many needs a home must meet. "It's my goal and purpose to help families create homes that enhance their daily lives without sacrificing quality or style," she says. "My designs are a tribute to the unique lives within them." For more, visit sarahhayesdesign.com.