It's All About





Layers



Layered window treatments are smart, good-looking, and solve problems–often all at the same time.



perennial beauty

A nostalgic cabbage rose fabric plants the seed for this pretty guest room. The lush look is showcased on Roman shades at each of the room's windows and in accents on the beds. "My client has a real fondness for florals," says designer Mark Phelps of Circa Interiors & Antiques in Charlotte. "We've used them here to create a mood that is quite feminine but without being fussy."

Phelps' no-fuss policy enlists soothing neutrals to keep the peace. He painted walls a warm khaki and selected that same color for simple pleated panels that softly frame each window's ravishing shade without competing with the intricate pattern and color play.

Phelps hung the draperies from chunky whitewashed wood poles mounted at the crown molding, a move that not only makes the room's ceiling feel higher but also crisply frames each floral shade, making it even more special. The khaki hue of the walls and draperies, along with the creamy white of the drapery rods, trimwork, and ceiling, appears in a patterned wool carpet on the floor. The room's twin beds feature creamy matelassé coverlets and headboards against which Phelps used the floral fabric with elegant restraint in accent pillows and bed skirts. "This room is a little formal, but also a little casual," he says. "It's all about making a beautiful statement that is also very inviting."



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OPPOSITE: Warm khaki walls and drapery panels combine with creamy trim, headboards, and coverlets to provide a calm and classic backdrop against which a nostalgic floral motif blossoms brilliantly.
ABOVE: A pretty floral Roman shade echoes the bed skirts, under panels with gently undulating leading edges.