

Office Politics

It's tricky business getting a home office to look good. This one gets the job done.



POWER PLAY

A boldly striped silk Roman shade cuts the sweetness of the pink walls.

GLASS ACT

A cut-glass foyer chandelier provides unexpected sparkle.

CHANGING SCENERY

Kathryn rotates desk accessories to freshen her view. "I use odd objects, like an antique glove mold as a paperweight and mint julep cups for pencils," she says.

OPEN STORAGE

A ceramic planter keeps papers in one spot and adds color.

STRATEGIC MOVE

Facing the door, the chair and table are inviting focal points. "It's important to create a space that makes you feel good even when you glimpse it walking by," Kathryn says.

BY JODY GARLOCK
PHOTO JAMES YOCHUM
PRODUCED BY GISELA ROSE

Pink slip Kathryn Chaplow likes to push the envelope when decorating a home office. "I love using silk and crystal and putting things that seem impractical to good use," says the interior designer, who turned the smallest bedroom of her Grand Rapids, Michigan, home into her workspace. Soft, feminine pink keeps sloped walls from closing in, and furniture is formal, functional—and not officey.

An antique mahogany dining table used as a desk has lots of spread-out space, a velvet cushion softens a rattan side chair, and a wicker sideboard hides reference books. Even clutter gets special treatment in a butler's tray that acts as a portable junk drawer. Kathryn's mission statement? "Be flexible in the way you look at things so you can inject some personality into your home workspace," she says. 🏠

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