

UP CLOSE and personal

BY TERRI FERRAGUT
PHOTOGRAPHY BY KINSEY WALLACE

Positive energy abounds in this sunlit room surrounded by the hardworking beauty of the window treatments. Bright light softens and envelops the entire space.

An immediate sense of calm and serenity greets you at the door of this local home. A soft palette of harmonious colors gently beckons you to explore every room. As you enter the sitting room, flanked by floor-to-ceiling, transom-topped windows, the summer sun bathes the space with its cheery disposition.

As Karen Anderson, owner/designer of Rose Creek Design enters the sun-lit space, she beams with pride and a sense of satisfaction. Anderson was entrusted by the homeowner to create perfect design partners for this sun-kissed project — beautiful and protective window treatments. The floral full-length draperies became the crowning glory of the sitting room, which emits English country cottage charm.

Design projects are personal to Anderson. “I have always loved design for as long as I can remember,” she says. “Art and design have been the filter through which I see all elements of everyday life. Scale, proportion, balance, and color are the first things I see at every glance.” Her eyes see the design in everyday objects and situations that reveal an opportunity to shape and create art to live with. Every project is a new experience for Anderson because each client has different design ideas, creating unique situations to “explore and shape.”

Working in a retail environment for a good portion of her career, she learned business basics: customer service, listening skills, and understanding the homeowner’s goals. Over the years, Anderson has shifted Rose Creek Design’s emphasis from total design services to nearly all window coverings — shades and draperies. “Their softness and functionality elevate a room. Window coverings can be the supporting cast to other elements of a room or they can be the star of the show,” she adds.

The window covering industry is always changing, trends come and go, but Anderson believes each new turn is an adaptation of a classic style. Draperies and side panels are back. Roman shades remain a popular soft shade choice. They are a stunning way to add height to a room and are available in a multitude of textures, bold to demure.

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ELEMENTS

Technology, Anderson's favorite change, has revolutionized the industry. Durable fabric, sun-deflecting screen fabrics, automation, or power shades offer many options to make a home beautiful and functional.

Anderson focuses on energy-efficient options for homeowners. "The right shade at the window can make a 30% difference in heat loss during winter," she explains. "In the summer heat, about 76% of the sunlight that falls on windows becomes heat in your room. Window coverings will reduce heat loss in the winter and heat gain in the summer, dramatically reducing energy bills.

"Homeowners doing new builds need to

consider meeting with a window covering specialist early in the planning stage," she suggests. "Hardwiring for shades, especially high and hard-to-reach windows is a must if you want to utilize power shades or integrate with your smart home systems."

This recent project was a challenge to Anderson due to the large expanse of floor-to-ceiling windows. Although the homeowner had no idea how to tackle the drape function in the room, she had a definite design style she was looking for. "I understood the need for privacy and sun control," she says. "The drapes are set up as two pairs with hand-drawn

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Karen Anderson, owner, and designer of Rose Creek Design stands with a humble sense of pride amidst the finished project. The selected drapery pattern, Water Color, adds an airy, naturalness with whispers of soft blues and greens— perfect for this English cottage-style home.



The homeowner had a true sense of how she envisioned the design style of her New England cottage-style home. This new build by Dave Anderson Construction became a perfect blank canvas for her personal tastes to shine.



ABOVE: The successful interplay of multiple patterns, textures, and colors make the room come alive with personality and charm. Anderson had a committed understanding with the homeowners to accomplish their goals.

LEFT: In seconds, Anderson changes the lighting in the room from tempered to brighter light. Transom-topped windows create stunning top to bottom glass window walls with southern exposure.

options that allow multiple opening options as the sun moves through the course of the day.”

The New England-style cottage home needed to reflect the homeowner, cozy yet sunny. The selected drapery pattern, Water Color, with a sateen finish creates an airy, natural freshness. Whispers of blues and green like a perpetual spring day, draw you into the charming kitchen. Wendt Custom Cabinets finished in Sherwin Williams color Rainwashed, are a soft green defining peace and serenity. The kitchen dinette nook, the perfect spot for relaxed Roman shades,

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— KAREN ANDERSON,
DESIGNER AND OWNER,
ROSECREEK DESIGN

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reflects the same sitting room drapery pattern but with a linen texture.

Anderson has a real and honest connection with her clients. “I love working with homeowners. Some know what they want, but don’t know how to execute the project,” she says. “Some have no idea what they want or need, and rely on me to help them visualize.”

Her favorite collaboration is with clients who want her to “push the envelope” yet stay within their design and budget parameters. Her most important consideration in a successful client relationship? Listening. Her personal goal? To make sure projects reflect client wishes, not hers. By the looks of it, she has superb listening skills.



TOP: Roman shades with the same pattern in a linen fabric style grace the table creating the perfect ambiance needed for a cozy meal.

MIDDLE: A cozy transition from the living room to the kitchen is seen here. Charming Wendt Custom Cabinets painted in Sherwin Williams color, Rainwashed, complete the room.

BOTTOM: The transition from the kitchen to the quaint look of the pantry/workstation to the dining table beyond the door results in well-planned efficiency for entertaining.



CONTRIBUTORS:

WINDOW TREATMENTS

Rose Creek Design

CABINETS

Wendt Custom Cabinets

BUILDER

Dave Anderson Construction

INTERIOR DESIGN

Homeowner



A beautiful overview of the room reveals the huge expanse of windows that blends the natural world with the living space of the homeowners. The proper window treatments can create varying amounts of light and heat throughout all seasons.