



# Rural Splendor

A CREATIVE DESIGN APPROACH  
HELPS THIS COZY TENNESSEE  
FARMHOUSE STAND UP TO THE  
DEMANDS OF COUNTRY LIVING.



**“IT’S BEEN A HOBBY FARM, MORE OF A GETAWAY,” SAYS DESIGNER ERIC ROSS, “AND I WANTED TO GIVE IT A SERENE FEEL.”**

Designer Eric Ross struck a balance between beauty and utility when he started work on this Morrison, Tennessee, farmhouse. Owners Debbie and Joey Jacobs wanted a home that would live up to minding a farm and raising cattle. The inspiration started with durable slate floors to camouflage the dirt tracked in with a typical day’s work of gardening and tending the herd. The final look was a fresh blend of American and French country. With a kitchen done in a palette of chocolate browns, creams, and verdant hues, collections of Spode Woodland china and transferware appear right at home. “Debbie is an avid collector,” Eric says. “Having the open shelves offered her an opportunity to display a lot of collections.” The shelves also made the small space feel more expansive. To balance the cabinetry and make the kitchen appear larger, Eric found an antique hutch to place along an opposite wall. The designer carried the color scheme into the guesthouse, where green textured walls and thoughtfully placed floral fabrics add a feminine touch. “I wanted to keep the palette similar so it wasn’t disruptive when looking at views of pastureland,” Eric explains. “Joey is an executive who has found working on a farm sort of therapeutic.” With plenty of functional elements incorporated into the timeless design, this farmhouse offers a tranquil respite from the Jacobses’ busy lives.





The ensuite bathroom provided opportunities to display the homeowners' collections, like a vintage dog print on the wall and small shell boxes placed atop towels and gracing the shelves of an étagère.



Eric's guesthouse design included seating areas to take in the countryside. At the end of the bed, Eric placed a settee he had upholstered in brown and white houndstooth. Tucked into the alcove of a dormer window, a secretary displays the homeowners' keepsakes.

