

# illy's garden getaway

Converting a simple bedroom into something extraordinary – a secret garden room for her baby daughter – turned out to be pure enjoyment for Rhani Capobianco. Jessie Reid reports



Rhani Capobianco, 31, a graphic designer, and her husband John, 36, a business manager, from Bairnsdale in Victoria, designed this room for their daughter Illy, now two

**WHEN DID YOU START?** I purchased the hanging birds when we were on our annual holiday in Merimbula, NSW, with friends. I wasn't even pregnant but loved the birds. A year or so later I pulled them out to see what fabrics and colours I could use to tie the room together.

**WHAT WAS YOUR INSPIRATION?**

The birds were definitely the starting point. As a graphic designer, I wanted to start developing some ideas straightaway. It was all very exciting – and the ideas just kept coming.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE ROOM?**

Garden themed. I didn't want anything too babyish and wanted Illy to enjoy her room for quite a few years. After deciding to work with the birds, I used foliage prints to represent the garden. I designed the leaf canvases by choosing colours from the fabrics. Then, to finish the "story" and so that the theme would follow through, I used the same leaf foliage in the silver wall stickers.

**HOW DID YOU SELECT THE COLOUR SCHEME?**

A close friend of mine began her own interior design company, so after a bit of guidance from her on which colours to choose >





from the bird fabric, we came up with a fantastic colour palette. Then we used the fabrics to make cushions and a cot cover.

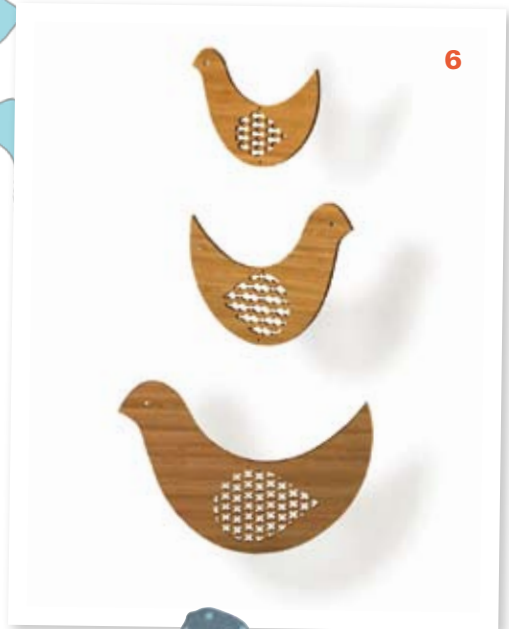
**DO YOU HAVE A DESIGN MANTRA?**

I get great enjoyment from turning "nothing" into something extraordinary. Design allows me the freedom to develop my individual style and then showcase it in a way that reflects my personality.

**WHAT'S NEXT?** Maybe another baby room – let's wait and see! ●

**GET THE LOOK**

- 1 Cushions from \$29.95 by Rapee (rapee.com.au)
- 2 Potang Rocking Chair \$499 by Ikea (ikea.com)
- 3 Bed in walnut \$1,799.95 by Leander (danishbydesign.com.au)
- 4 Owl cushion \$84.95 by Mamas & Papas (minimee.com.au)
- 5 Wall sticker \$115 by Lara Cameron (thewallstickercompany.com.au)
- 6 Bird mobile \$75 by Lorena Siminovich (kindergallery.com.au)
- 7 Personalised canvas from \$65 by Idea + Ink (ideaplusink.com.au)
- 8 Throw rug \$89.95 by Mamas & Papas (theinfantboutique.com.au)
- 9 Dresser \$1,199 and changing pad \$329 by Oeuf (metromum.com.au)
- 10 Tea Set \$59.95 by Le Toy Van (happylittlehippos.com.au)
- 11 Owl clock \$79.95 by Decoylab Design Studio (theinfantboutique.com.au)
- 12 Canvases from \$65 by Idea + Ink (ideaplusink.com.au)



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