

INTO THE WOODS

EAMONN'S NURSERY

Titus and Joanna's inspiration for this rustic little retreat was a set of woodcuts done by Titus's father of a bear and deer emerging from the forest. The woodcuts are beautiful, and represent the love the couple shares for the outdoors, particularly the woods of Maine. The rugged, wild terrain has always been a retreat for the two of them, because Titus grew up in Maine, Joanna has summered there since childhood, and the family now has their own cabin in beautiful rural Maine.

The tent-like covering on the crib, the wooden blinds, the handsome armoire—all of these touches give this nursery a rustic, cabin feel.





project: Framed and Stenciled Blackboard

Blackboards are wonderful things to hang in children's rooms. You can change the pictures often, and when your children begin to draw, they can decorate them by themselves. Framing the blackboard gives it a more finished look. It's important to frame it in a wide, plain wooden frame so you'll be able to paint and stencil easily. You can buy stencils, such as the Helen Foster stencils listed in the Resources section (see pages 150–154), or make your own by using paper and scissors to create shapes and scenes, as Joanna Welliver did to create this lovely frame. Unless you're very handy, we suggest having the blackboard framed by a professional.

TOOLS

- paintbrush
- scissors
- masking tape
- newspaper or clean butcher paper
- shallow dish or bowl
- sponge



MATERIALS

- 4-by-6 foot blackboard with a 2-inch-wide wooden frame
- nontoxic paint, for frame and stencil
- stencil (see Note)



1 Lay the blackboard on a flat surface and paint the frame. Allow it to dry overnight.

2 Cut the stencil out, then tape the stencil onto the frame with masking tape. Cover the surface of the blackboard with the newspaper or butcher paper to protect it from drips once you begin applying the paint.

3 Pour some paint into the bowl. Using the sponge, lightly apply paint to the stencil. Remove the stencil very carefully and move to the next position on the frame, making a continuous design. Repeat until application is completed. Allow the paint to dry overnight.

Note: If you want to use store-bought, try the Helen Foster stencil, available at the Gamble House Gift Shop. See Resources, pages 150–154.



