

Forever Red

Photo by David Dietrich

Linda Constable's blood doesn't run red — it runs ruby. Her grandmother's vintage glassware in that shade has inspired more than one incarnation of her own kitchen over the years, and her approach to her latest personal renovation is skilled but relaxed, befitting a professional designer (she's a long-time major player on the Ambiance Interiors team in Asheville). The '30s-era Weaverville bungalow she shares with her husband Blair is newly anchored by a HanStone quartz island top and countertops in "Passion Rouge" — Linda calls it a "Ruby Slipper" look. (Combined with cottage-y floral window valances and cushions on black, high-backed counter stools, it becomes a fairytale raspberry shade — Tasha Tudor or Beatrix Potter would have approved.) Patterned, glass-front white custom cabinetry, a deep farmhouse sink, white beadboard wainscoting, and a large oil canvas painted by a family member make it the kind of space where breakfast might flow into lunch and on to afternoon tea without the room's inhabitants feeling the urge to stir. Guests love the cheerful spot, confirms Linda:

"There are two comfy chairs and an ottoman perfect for a morning cup of coffee or wine in the evening." She adds "good conversation" to the mix of amenities. "The design goal," she says, "was for the room to feel like it's always been there."

RESOURCES

Interior Designer Linda Constable, Ambiance Interiors (Asheville), *see page 45*

Cabinetry Carl Giesenschlag, Wildwood Studios (Asheville)

Patterned Glass: Touch of Glass, (Asheville)

Countertops Alpha Stone, installer (Asheville)

Fireclay Sink & Faucet Bella Hardware & Bath (Asheville)

