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# FROM DREAM WEDDING TO DREAM HOME



Photo by Stephen Thielkard

BY BECKY GOSNELL  
PHOTOS BY JOE WITTKOP



# BY BALANCING MASCULINE AND FEMININE TOUCHES, FAYETTEVILLE HOMEOWNERS MARK AND JENESSA BAILEY CREATE A STYLISH AND COMFORTABLE HOME TO LAST A LIFETIME



**O**n Oct. 6, 2006, Mark Bailey and Jenessa Dyer were married at Fellowship Bible Church in Rogers. There were approximately 843 guests in attendance to witness and later celebrate the event, which remains one of the largest, most extravagant weddings to be held in Northwest Arkansas. They honeymooned at the One and Only Ocean Club in Paradise Island, Bahamas. Upon their return, feeling tremendously blessed to have such a beautiful and smooth start to their life as a married couple, Mark and Jenessa happily combined all of their belongings and lived in the home she had purchased a year and a half earlier.

After a few years of wedded bliss, the couple felt it was time to make that next big leap – one that can seriously test the limits of love: They decided to buy and decorate their “forever” home. Perhaps not quite as large of an event as their wedding, but most certainly an equally significant one, and one that can create a great amount of stress for a couple. Not to mention, they were also busy with their new baby boy, Dyer. Fortunately, a strong marriage like theirs can handle most

anything and they tackled this step with love, respect and patience.

In July 2011, the family (which also includes a big chocolate Lab named Jack) moved into their 4,646-square-foot home in Fayetteville’s Candlewood subdivision – with plans to stay forever. “When we chose this house, I imagined Dyer as a big teenage guy standing at the kitchen bar after football practice. So having a space that would work long term, for a growing family, was always important,” Jenessa explains.

As the owner of J. Bailey Occasions, a wedding and event planning company, she is also savvy enough to know when to hire a professional for help. She enlisted well-known local interior designer Casey Roark long before moving day to ensure that the home would be ready for their arrival. “Working with Casey was the best,” Jenessa says. “She has such a talent for bringing my ‘design words’ to life! She also did a phenomenal job of working to find a balance between mine and Mark’s personal styles and what we wanted for the look of the house. We are both so happy with the results!”



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## INTERIOR FABRICS AND DESIGN

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As seen in  
the Bailey Home in  
this issue of CitiScapes.

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Dining Room



Family Room



Kitchen



Entertainment Room

The Baileys' home is cozy and warm, with an appropriate combination of his-and-her touches, making it comfortable for everyone. "The bones of the house itself strike a great balance – with rustic features like the stone fireplace and dark woods, mixed in with the more classic white crown moldings," says Jenessa. To create the comfortable, yet sophisticated look, as well as one that would please them both, they selected neutral colors, such as Benjamin Moore's Castle Walls – a subtle blue that runs throughout the home, and Jenessa's favorite. The couple also chose whimsical, patterned fabrics in more traditional colors to infuse some playfulness and add updated elements to each room.

In addition to simply being nice to each other, Jenessa credits planning and communication as key factors in a smooth design process. "Before we moved in, we decided what rooms we each cared the most about and gave each other more freedom to pick and choose the things that went in those rooms," she says. Mark claimed the garage, office and basement while Jenessa took design lead on the rest of the home.



A few of the spaces, however, such as the master bedroom and bathroom, were definitely a combined effort. With much input from Mark and Jenessa, Casey designed the bedroom to be a stylish and relaxing retreat that they both can enjoy. "I love that we actually made the master bedroom a priority to finish," Jenessa says. "It's great to have a fantastic room to come home to and we are so pleased with the look."

For the nursery, a one-of-a-kind room was made with the creative talents of designer Kirsten Blowers, owner of Fayetteville's Riffraff – bright, bold colors adorn the walls with plenty of kid-friendly accents all around. "Dyer's room is cheerful and fun, and he has even learned his letters from them being painted on the walls," Jenessa says.

## DISTINCT DESIGN.

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Hollie Hudson, RN  
Owner

"I think he knows that it is a space made just for him since it is so different from the rest of the house."

Upstairs is Dyer's playroom, full of youthful energy! It is primarily his area, but was designed with the entire family in mind. "The playroom's main function is for Dyer to have full reign of the room," explains Jenessa. "But we do have a sitting area with a TV so that the grownups can sit and chat or kids can watch a movie comfortably. The room also contains my office space so I can work and still keep an eye on Dyer."

Mark says that, for him, the most important thing in a home is livability – having a home that is welcoming and comfortable for his family, as well as for others. "We want it to be an open place where people know they can come for a fun time, to relax and to be loved," Jenessa adds.

With respectful collaboration and realistic expectations, the Baileys have created a home where they can live... happily ever after. ■



Formal Living Room



Master Bedroom

## HOME PROS USED

Interior Designer: Casey Roark, **Casey Roark Designs**, Fayetteville

Interior Designer (nursery): Kirsten Blowers, **Kirsten Blowers Interior Design**, Fayetteville

Décor/Furnishings: **I.O. Metro** (also mirrors), Fayetteville and Rogers, **Lighting Emporium** (also mirrors and lighting), Springdale; **Mathis Brothers Furniture**, Tulsa; **Pottery Barn**, Rogers; **Restoration Hardware** (office furniture), online; **Riffraff**, Fayetteville

Drapes/Fabric: **Interior Fabrics & Design**, Fayetteville

Electrician: Todd Eckelhoff, **Lee Jackson Construction**, Mulberry, Ark.

Landscaping: **Leisurescapes** (clean up), Springdale

Specialty Painting: Hadden Spotts, **Swazey Grey Interiors** (master bedroom wall, nursery stripes), Fayetteville

Upholstery: **Roger Fletcher Upholstery**, Fayetteville

Wiring/Alarm System: **Alert Alarm Systems, Inc.**, Lowell



Nursery