

Green ROOM

We're fantasizing about long, lazy summer afternoons spent in the cool embrace of this enchanting veranda's lush living wall.

Dream
Inspiration of the month

This romantic hideaway at interior designer Isabel López-Quesada's home has a magical, slowed-down ambience. The combination of overflowing plants, the slithering tendrils of a Virginia creeper, furniture that shows a sense of age, and thoughtful décor has us repeating the question: Is the garden part of the room or is the room part of the garden?



The Dream List



1 OFF THE WALL

Rather than just hanging in the background, the vines sprawl along the floor and tangle through the reclaimed stable doors, softening any hard edges. Big leafy plants, including oakleaf hydrangeas in pots propped up on tables and a Japanese maple next to the sofa, create a canopy that further envelops the space.

2 EASY DOES IT

Nothing appears brand-new here; rather, everything—found objects, weathered vintage pieces, faded blue and white tones, mix-and-match rattan furniture—has an aged patina, building a style that's decidedly casual and fuss-free.

3 BLURRED LINES

Decorative accessories give the space an indoor feel while playing with the line between garden and room. A wood architectural model propped on an old bakery table (*previous spread*) resembles a grand garden folly that's been shrunk. A worn baluster-turned-lamp sports a basket for a shade, and the hydrangeas' concrete planters only appear to be baskets that might have been borrowed from inside the house. ■

at the nursery Vine Guide

If you want to re-create a living wall effect like Isabel López-Quesada's, keep these pointers in mind.

STICKY SITUATIONS

Be aware that certain vines, including Virginia creeper, creeping fig, and English ivy, create aerial roots that suction onto walls and can cause damage.

SAFE CLIMBERS

Vines like passion flower and star jasmine give you a similar look without the risk, but you need to provide support for the vines to grow on. A sturdy trellis works well, or train them along fishing wire attached with screw eyes.

ALTERNATE ROUTE

Another option is to avoid the walls and set planters at the corners of a pergola or covered patio. Plant them with both a climber to train up a structure and a trailing specimen.

A leggy agapanthus dips its purple flower heads toward the sofa as if it wants to be part of the conversation.



ISABEL LÓPEZ-QUESADA AT HOME

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