



Images by Emma O'Brien – Official photographer for the Sandton SPCA 2013 Kilimanjaro Expedition.

EVA'S NURSERY Timeless & Classic

Interior decorator JOY LIEDTKE shares her tips and advice on decorating a nursery by telling us just how she prepared for the arrival of her little girl.

Having an interior decorator for a mom, baby Evangeline is sure to be the envy of many little girls for years to come. Her haven, although a relatively small space of 3m x 4m, has been styled and colour-schemed to work within the home's modern classic design, creating good design flow. It was important to Joy that the room be functional for her little girl up to her sixth birthday, or even beyond. To this end, she chose a simple design with neutral colours and elements that can be changed as her daughter grows, and which add longevity to the design.

WALLS & ALL

The walls were painted with a cool palette of blue-grey

colours, and a damask wallpaper put up in complementary colours to form the base colour palette from which she worked. Joy then chose a grey-and-white striped fabric for the blinds, which work beautifully with the damask and the blue-grey walls. By keeping colours neutral, Joy explains that you can add themed elements that your child particularly fancies by using small items such as cushions or small, framed artwork, or a duvet cover, instead of making the entire room themed.

TIP: Contrasting patterns and designs in fabrics are a fun way to add texture into a room.

CRAZY ABOUT CRYSTAL

Keeping the ceiling white, Joy added a beautiful crystal

chandelier with a centre rose moulding to enhance the classical design theme. Loving the crystal in the chandelier, she decided to bring more crystal into the room by changing the knobs on the drawers to crystal balls. Joy also custom-made the mobile above Eva's cot and attached it to a mosquito net, creating a stunning focal point in the room.

TIP: Always repeat a design shape or element to create continuity in the design.

STYLISH FURNITURE

The scale and proportion was important and, due to the size of the room, Joy chose furniture that was neither too large nor bulky. The dark wood lends warmth that only a chocolate colour can bring to a space and is also a great colour contrast against the pastel room colours. The cot and compactum are a classic sleigh style in design. The plain grey rocking chair and footstool do not detract from the wallpaper and striped blinds, and the damask cushion with Eva's name on it brings the damask design into the chair.

TIP: Ensure that the furniture is in proportion to the size of the room.

DREAM DÉCOR

Different shaped, sized and textured hearts not only add a sense of romance and femininity to the room, but they also give the room the depth found in classical design. There are light splashes of pink here and there to accentuate the colour scheme and brings it to life. These can be changed to a lavender or lemon colour at a later stage at a minimal cost. Joy also placed the teddies and ornaments that she collected during her pregnancy on the windowsills, which add to the texture and femininity of the room.

TIP: Place ornaments neatly spaced without cluttering them.

FUNCTIONAL FLOORING

Joy found a thin pile shaggy rug in an off-white to add warmth and texture to the room's originally cream, short pile carpet.

Rugs are also functional in terms of making an area softer and safer for babies to play.

TIP: Rugs finish off a room by adding warmth and texture, depending on the colour.

STORAGE SOLUTIONS

Storage is of utmost importance in a nursery. You need to allow for easy access and to also store things away where baby cannot reach them. In a small space, it's important to keep items simple and organised. As a natural organiser, Joy ensures that everything has a place and a box! This makes things easy to find and to pack away!

WHERE TO SHOP:

Walls:	Plascon; Cloud Number Nine
Wallpaper:	Fabric Fusion; Sasi wallpaper
Blinds:	Scarlett Fine; Fabric Fusion
Chandelier:	Lighting Warehouse; @Home, Mr Price and Boardmans
Furniture:	Cot & Compactum – Babylicious; Kids Emporium; Rocking Chair and footstool – www.comfymummy.co.za ; Silver side table – Coricraft; Coat Stand – Mr Price
Teddies & accessories:	Kids Emporium; Crafters Market; Mr Price
Rug:	Boardmans
Storage:	Santos; Mr Price; Woolworths
Mosquito net:	Cape Union Mart
Crystal mobile:	A Joybydesign creation, with crystals bought from the Crafters Market
Name letters:	Mr Price

TIP: Always remember when designing a nursery to think long term and safety first!

