

BOUTIQUE CHIC | AMW Design Studio

“The owners of this West Bloomfield home were looking for a bedroom with a boutique hotel-like atmosphere,” Amy Miller Weinstein of *AMW Design Studio* in Birmingham says. Important changes to the former suite included optimizing the layout and the addition of a laundry room. “The clients wanted to be able to enjoy a view of the lake when they woke up in the morning, so the bed was originally positioned to face the window,” she says. “They literally had no walking or wall space the way the bed was previously placed.” This in turn, necessitated a good-natured reminder. “A space is three dimensional, you don’t have to stare straight ahead to enjoy something, so I sometimes tease my clients and remind them that they can turn their heads to take in a view,” she jokes. To create a better flow, the designer placed the bed against the wall and framed it with a full-wall custom headboard—and a boucle tête-à-tête now offers a cozy space for the homeowners to cuddle up and enjoy their view with a cup of coffee in the morning.

To create a serene and comfortable atmosphere of your own, Weinstein suggests layering compatible fabrics with velvet, woven, and patterned textures. “And my approach is to usually stay monochromatic when doing that,” she notes. “It’s more about a texture story and less about a color story.” For this suite, the designer gravitated to a putty/stone palette.

When designing a space, Weinstein says that she has an overall scene in her mind’s eye. “I had a natural look in mind, and I was trying to suggest it without going overboard,” she says. “I try to distill the essence of the scene and look for ways to reinforce it when I put a room together.” One other important aspect to creating a comfortable atmosphere includes custom drapery for a perfect fit. “I really dislike off-the-rack drapes as a solution,” she laments. “I’d rather see them naked. Those types of drapes are like wearing an ill-fitting sweater. It may cover you up, but the arms may be too long or it’s too baggy.” The result culminated in a luxurious suite befitting any high-end hotel.

Headboard fabric: **Pindler**; Drapery fabric: **Tennant & Associates**