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STAR STYLE

A PETITE RETREAT FOR THE CO-HOST, AND A SOFA, TOO

BY SUSAN SWIMMER PORTRAIT BY MICHAEL WESCHLER INTERIORS BY KEITH SCOTT MORTON



LEFT: Kelly Ripa is right at home after Ty remakes her dressing room. Now it's a stylish place to rev up, then wind down from the intensity of her work on-set in the studio, just a few paces down the hall.

Kelly Ripa, the famously petite co-host of the popular *Live With Regis and Kelly* television show, was accustomed to cramped dressing rooms in New York. "They're always tiny!" she says. And she should know from tiny. "I mean, space is limited, and we're just happy to have something. But it's usually a lot of industrial carpeting and fluorescent lighting, which, let's face it, flatters no one." Then, after Kelly appeared as a guest on *The Martha Stewart Show*, she had an awakening when she saw her dressing room. "It was so beautiful," she gushes. "And it had a sofa! I thought, well how about that? Could I have a sofa, too?"

So back on her turf at ABC, Kelly envisioned a retreat that was soft and soothing, well organized and environmentally responsible. That, and a sofa. Cue Ty, who took her tall order and transformed the space that, at a mere 115 square feet, is almost as diminutive as, well, Kelly herself. Once a generic looking room with just the essentials, Kelly's new Ty-designed digs are sophisticated, feminine and tidy.

A color palette of ivory and pale sage with delicate lilac accents brings the space together and makes it deceptively spacious. Kelly's sofa is long enough to stretch out on (that's 5 feet 3 inches, for those of you keeping score at home) but sleek enough to leave some space to move about. An elegant tone-on-tone leaf motif wallpaper hangs on

HAIR: DIANE D'AGOSTINO; MAKEUP: MICHELLE CHAMPAGNE; WARDROBE: FAITH CROMAS



ABOVE: Kelly's hushed new dressing room is all business, yet all styled out, too. Soft color, texture and lighting make the diminutive room feel more spacious and inviting.

one wall, a space-expanding design trick. Layered on top of fresh (not industrial-looking) wall-to-wall carpeting, Ty defines the seating area with a faux fur rug that invites bare feet. Worn items from her old dressing room—a mirror, nesting tables, chair and coffee table—are made new again with coats of no-VOC white paint. The bench-style coffee table also doubles as extra seating. “I didn’t want to be wasteful,” Kelly says. “In New York we have a great recycling program. Everyone at the show is very conscientious about recycling, and I wanted to do my part.”

Ty’s other eco-friendly solutions include wallpaper printed with water-based non-toxic inks on sustainable paper. The sofa maker, Montauk Sofa, plays its part, too, reducing landfill waste by recycling old furniture into new pieces. The Shaw carpeting and Graber closet door panels are also made of recycled materials.

A neat-freak, Kelly feels relaxed when she has a place for everything, and everything is in its place. “Television is such a frantic environment,” she says, and, of all people, Ty gets it. So a new storage system from The Container Store “makes everything accessible.” The long vanity table has loads of space underneath for slide-out drawers to keep accessories and grooming gear tidy. “I’m hyper-organized, and those



BEFORE: The small space was ready for the Ty touch. Soon, Kelly's dressing room received a full-blown makeover.