



LEFT: In contrast to the lush main draperies, a simple sheer hangs from an ornate rod on the side door, allowing easy access to the sun-drenched patio beyond. BELOW: "Draperies should have all the details of a fine ball gown," designer Nancy Taylor Lynch says. Crisp pleats, a polished paneling effect, and multihue fringe make the valance a showstopper. OPPOSITE: Focusing on strong colors helped Nancy create a look that's both pretty and brightly dynamic.

# FRENCH flair

Unexpected color and pattern update the classic furnishings in a cozy eat-in kitchen.

**C**omfort and beauty don't have to be mutually exclusive—at least when designer Nancy Taylor Lynch is on the scene. For the dining area in her Gastonia, North Carolina, eat-in kitchen, Nancy focused on color and timeless pieces in creating a family dining area. Her five essential elements:

- 1. Lighting:** A burnished bronze fixture hangs low over the pine table, casting warm light and producing a comfy country French effect.
- 2. Fabric:** A richly detailed print with fruit depicted in full color contrasts perfectly with a rusty-red solid and a blue-and-white plaid.
- 3. Seating:** French chairs, reupholstered in contrasting fabrics and filled with generous padding, offer inviting resting spots for a busy family to gather around the table.
- 4. Window treatments:** The tailored valance frames three print panels like pieces of art. Tasseled fringe provides softness and dimension.
- 5. Personal touches:** The homeowner's collection of transferware is on prominent display in the side hutch.

#### RESOURCES ON PAGE 92

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