

Sweet dreams!

Shh! An exclusive peek at Brooke Shields's beautiful nursery, for her even more beautiful baby.

Last May, Brooke Shields got the role of a lifetime: mommy. After seven in vitro treatments (and, she has confessed, not a little heartache), the actress, 38, and her husband, TV writer Chris Henchy, welcomed daughter Rowan into the world. For such a long-desired baby, only a special nursery would do—and the happy mom knew exactly whom to call.

Nursery designer to the stars, Wendy Bellissimo is known for creating whimsical, fairy-tale spaces that are both luxurious and practical. (To see more of them, check out her recent book, *Nesting*.)

Shields had made two decisions about decorating the room: She wanted to use various mementos of her own childhood, and she did not want to use the color pink. "Brooke gave me boxes and boxes of her baby things," says Bellissimo. "It was great fun figuring out what to do with it all."

The result: an inviting and intimate room, full of treasures and charming details. Even some of the brand-new furnishings evoke the past—for example, the crib bumpers are embroidered with lambs, because Shields was called Lambby when she was a baby. It's a nursery fit for a princess—which, in Hollywood, is just what Baby Rowan was born to be. ▶



The sleigh crib is handsome but dark—so Bellissimo dressed it in whites, naturals, and muted yellows, above. "Brooke [with Rowan at three and a half months, inset] wanted the room to be subtly feminine and not too girly," says the designer. Bellissimo's signature touch: adding something that features the baby's name, such as this ruffled, butter-colored pillow, left.



ABOVE The vintage clown lamp, one of the collectibles Shields saved for the nursery, shows off its charming bedside manner.

LEFT The nursery is big enough to accommodate not just a crib but also a twin-size bed. Covered with a chenille patchwork duvet, it's perfect for parental catnaps.

BELOW A soft sage toile on the window seat cushions repeats the bunny-and-lamb motif—and plays up the greenery of the view.

PHOTOGRAPHS, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CAMERON CAROTHERS (2); HANDELAND TESSORO

Nursery know-how



A mother of three girls herself, Wendy Bellissimo has personal as well as professional experience decorating baby rooms. Her sound, if sometimes unconventional, advice for moms-to-be:

Get a head start. "If you begin planning when you're around five months pregnant, you won't have to rush any decisions and there'll be time for specially ordered things to arrive."

Lie down on the floor. "How else can you make sure the baby's view from the crib is interesting?"

Think: muted. "Bright primary colors are stimulating, not restful. You want to create a calm and peaceful haven." ■

