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DECEMBER 2021



COURTESY OF HULYA KOLABAS

SPACE OF THE MONTH

Study Guide

A few modern twists bring this 1920s room into the 21st century.

BY LESLIE CORONA



Meet the Designer

MALKA HELFT

Malka enjoys working on older homes in New York's Westchester County. Rather than renovate out the unique character of century-old houses, the Think Chic Interiors designer leans into the original details—and function, which explains the parlor in this otherwise very 2021 home. Malka's small, cosmetic adjustments liven up the space without detracting from its old-style charm.



Get the Look

WARM UP

Dark wood has built-in coziness. The walnut cabinets and paneling are complemented by other deep hues and sophisticated textures, like the mauve leather armchairs.

FIND THE BRIGHT SIDE

To keep the dark wood and leather from taking over, a light rug is key. "Blue works with most color schemes. It's like denim, which can be worn with practically anything," Malka says. Bonus: The rug's gridded pattern echoes the coffered ceiling.

MAKE TINY TWEAKS

A contemporary element or two prevents an old room from becoming a stodge-atorium. Here, the swiveling brass bases of the armchairs and a Sputnik-style chandelier do the trick.

TO BUY: The Classic Walnut Chess Set, \$100; hammacher.com. Erin Gates Charles Area Rug, \$250 (5 by 8 ft.); onekingslane.com. Cirrus Chandelier, \$270; overstock.com. Home Decorators Collection Bradstone Bookcase, \$509; homedepot.com. Opalhouse Paeonia Accent Table, \$79; target.com. *Sitting Pretty I* by Jennifer Allevato, \$109; minted.com. Tegan Pedestal Swivel Chair, \$1,145; interiordefine.com. Westinghouse Antique Brass Picture Light, \$79; lampsplus.com.