

# Working Class

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As an avid fan of old movies and television shows, I loved the idealized midcentury home where love, life and highjinks seem to occur in a picture-perfect atmosphere. I've often wanted to crawl into the TV and live in one of those "Hi honey; I'm home!" settings. So why couldn't I?

One day as I biked through my neighborhood in Valley Glen, Calif., (which even sounds like a fictitious town next to the Cleavers), a house I had never noticed before was for sale. The exterior had been freshly painted and it looked just like it might have when it was first built. As I pressed my nose against all the windows, the inside did not disappoint. The interior had not been touched or updated in the usual off-the-shelf, home-improvement-store way. I quickly scheduled a tour, and the moment I walked in and saw the beautiful flagstone fireplace, I knew I was home. The original owner of this 1956 ranch had recently passed away and the estate was in probate. Working through the trials and tribulations of both selling my condo and closing the deal on my first house was not easy, but I did it.

Now it was time to create a swinging pad that both Elvis and Ann-Margret might have settled into at the end of my favorite movie, *Viva Las Vegas*. First, I picked a color palette from the era that would unite, yet separate, the open living/dining room. I settled on 'Shrimp Cocktail' and 'Shy Turquoise,' which complement my collection of movie posters of the King of Rock-n-Roll and *Kitten With a Whip*. A kidney-shaped Lane coffee table, shag rug and Selig Z chair with a matching ottoman set off the living room. I separated the two rooms with simple pole dividers inspired by the Hollywood apartment in *I Love Lucy*. The long, rectan-

The living room houses a Selig Z chair and ottoman, a Lane coffee table, a tripod floor lamp from Lamps Plus and a Restoration Hardware Luc sofa.

# Heroes

## Viva Valley Glen

