



A Room of His Own

Bob McKinnon's great room gracefully combines business and pleasure.

As COO and president of Joan Fabrics in Hickory, Bob McKinnon's harried workweek often hovers in the 60- to 70-hour range. Business gatherings seamlessly spill into nights and weekends. Fortunately, Bob, who heads the \$1-billion-dollar group of decorative fabrics companies, and his wife, Ray, enjoy entertaining friends who are clients and clients who are friends.

And in the couple's home in Newton, just east of Hickory, the McKinnons possess the perfect great room for hosting large get-togethers. "This is where we normally begin a party," says Bob about the space, which features an entire wall of stone. Natural linen fabric covers other walls.

"It's a great gathering spot," he explains. "The fireplace is wonderful during the winter, and it's comfortable." The massive mantel

displays family photos and trophies. With a handicap that ranges from 8 to 11, Bob's goal is to play the world's top 100 golf courses. So far, he's hit 62 of them.

Despite its huge dimensions, the room conveys a warm ambience with its hardwoods accented with sisal and Oriental rugs. The space is furnished with a mix of antiques and favorite pieces from Bob's company, among them matching leather sofas and a wing chair covered in menswear fabric. Ray, who studied interior design, collaborated with company professionals on the room's decor, which Bob laughingly describes as "manly."

The busy executive adds, "It's a haven for me." When business is your life and your life is business, a special place that graciously blends the two just makes bottom-line sense.

Nancy Dorman-Hickson



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