



# Create a GUEST FARM COTTAGE

Learn how to build a separate space for your out-of-town visitors.

BY VICTORIA VAN VLEAR

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**I**f you entertain many overnight guests, you'll know the convenience of having a separate space for visitors. This darling guest house by Historical Concepts sits on the property of a larger farm estate outside Savannah, Georgia. "The clients wanted a guest house for both weekend and long-term visits that would allow friends and family to come and enjoy the property independently," says Terry Pylant of Historical Concepts. "It's a separate, private place for visiting guests to feel at home, to come and go without disturbing their hosts in a comfortable and fully equipped home."

If you want to create your own home-away-from-home for your guests, here are two of the key elements you'll need.

**Proportion.** The architectural elements of a guest house need to stay compact because of the smaller size. Notice on this house that instead of putting the gabled dormer on top of the first-story roof, Historical Concepts incorporated it into the roofline, which fits in with the small stature of the structure. Also, rather than building a full wraparound porch, they stuck with a covered portico, which doesn't overwhelm the small front of the house.

**Charm.** There's a certain charm about the idea of a guest house—a separate structure that acts as a getaway for visiting family and friends. Both your interior and exterior should reflect that vacationer vision, and this house certainly does that. The black shutters around each window punctuate the house with contrast, and the flower boxes full of geraniums provide just enough color.