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A BASEMENT MAKEOVER CREATES A COMFORTABLE, COZY RETREAT FOR AN ATLANTA FAMILY

written by **LISA MOWRY** photograph by **EMILY FOLLOWILL**



BASEMENTS DON'T USUALLY have a lot of architectural charm, so interior designer Amy Morris, of Amy D. Morris Interiors, added some much-needed character to this dry, unfinished basement. For cottage-style warmth, Morris installed horizontal wood planks directly over drywall on the walls and the ceiling, and added rustic ceiling beams. She painted the walls and the fireplace light cream and put a chocolate-colored carpet on the floor. To continue the earthy palette, she added taupe slipcovered linen chairs and a coffee table made of reclaimed wood. "It's already beaten up, so you can't hurt it anymore," she says. An oversized mirror, industrial-look lamps and a series of tree prints on the walls finish off the look to give this active family a more comfortable, usable living space.

ABOVE: Upgrading the plain walls and ceiling makes this room feel less like a basement. The neutral decor and family-friendly furnishings are a pleasing mix of rich textures and earthy hues.