

high/low

The image shows two beds side-by-side, illustrating the 'high/low' theme. The bed on the left is a dark wood sleigh bed with a quilted grey bedspread, a matching quilted pillow, and a small round quilted pillow. The bed on the right is a similar dark wood sleigh bed with a quilted grey bedspread, a matching quilted pillow, and a small round quilted pillow. The background is a soft-focus landscape of tall grass.

bedroom [x2]

One room sets new standards for sweet dreams in sybaritic luxury; the other maximizes comfort without maxing out the platinum card.

If you're going to spend a third of your life in bed, it seems only sensible to create a pampering place to lay your head. That was our mandate for this installment of the high-low challenge: to create two equally restful havens (in a palette and style that would fit a range of homes, from city loft to country place) with all the same elements but on two very different budgets.

Creating a super-luxe bedroom fit for a reigning monarch was relatively simple—witness skyrocketing thread counts in bedding departments everywhere. But we also discovered how utterly possible it is to sleep like royalty even without the power to levy taxes or bestow knight-hoods, thanks to the innovative use of new materials and retailers attuned to the nuanced nest. >

Produced by Elana Frankel. Photographs by Ann Stratton. Bed Styling by Tim Croneberger. Written by Kate Walsh.



high
 Bed \$22,900
 Mattress \$5,500
 Linens \$5,725
 Rug \$2,000
 Table \$350
 Light \$3,200
 Art \$28,000
 Wallpaper \$9,300
 Extras \$3,755
\$80,730

The comfort zone starts with a fluffy sheepskin rug in both bedrooms. The HIGH version (above) is a six-foot square *Doris rug* from Loophouse through Designtex, made of the highest-grade New Zealand wool; the version opposite is an all-American bargain from ABC Carpet & Home. Luminous Designtex *wallpaper* gives each room a golden glow: *Urban Metal* (above) is made of hand-applied gold leaf (hence the \$155/yard price tag), while the *Metal Weave* (opposite) is made of recycled natural

latex (\$25/yard). Dform's *lamp shade* (above) is an artful assemblage of wood laminate strips; Camilla Diedrich's *Bubble lamp* (opposite) is constructed of washable polyester.

For the main event, we chose curvy sleigh beds: The HIGH *Rivoli bed*, from the Lucien Rollin collection through William Switzer, is a stunning work of art; its handmade beech-wood base is covered in exotic macassar ebony veneers. For a fraction of that price, the LOW bed is an eminently desirable walnut-stained



low

- Bed \$1,250
- Mattress \$1,900
- Linens \$1,430
- Rug \$650
- Table \$199
- Light \$750
- Art \$1,200
- Wallpaper \$1,500
- Extras \$122

\$9,001

piece by Baronet (called *Java*), available at Storehouse.

Bedding couturier Ann Gish was our **linen** source for both rooms. At left is a selection from her artisanal custom line—all 100 percent charmeuse silk (in Frost), which must be dry-cleaned. For the more moderately priced route, we chose a shimmering set from Gish's Ready-to-Bed line, which is made of machine-washable habotai silk (in Sea). Edges on the LOW sheets are machine-sewn knife pleats; their posh cousins have

hand-sewn finishing bands and a longer "drop" (they're wider).

Beside the LOW bed is Crate & Barrel's *Pia* table, with glass shelves and a tubular metal frame; its high-end sleek equivalent is an aluminum *Minima* table from the Terence Conran Shop. Works of original **art** grace both rooms: "Set Diagram 64" by Terry Winters brightens the HIGH bedroom. Mary Temple's compelling "184,500-189,500," part of the artist's ongoing project of drawing a million ellipses, hangs above. >