

# WSJ

OFF DUTY

## Design & Decorating

*Bambino Brouhaha*

By F. Martin Ramin  
November 9-10, 2019

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**OFF DUTY**

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. \*\*\*\*\*

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### DESIGN & DECORATING

MEDIATOR

## Bambino Brouhaha

### THE CONFLICT

The new dad loves an Art Deco-flavored crib, but Mom isn't giving up the artful floor lamp she owned pre-baby. Three designers suggest items to bridge the aesthetic gap in a nursery



▲ Uptown Crib, \$1,195, [newportcottages.com](http://newportcottages.com)



▶ The Bride Floor Lamp (Large), \$2,590, [marieburgosdesignthestore.com](http://marieburgosdesignthestore.com)



**SOLUTION 1**  
**Find a wall covering in which boy meets girl.** Holly Waterfield, lead designer for the Brooklyn Home Company, recommends this dramatic wallpaper. Its inky background connects with the dark, masculine crib while the floral pattern finds a friend in the elaborately feminine lamp. Result: unifying fairytale enchantment, suitable for babies of both



sexes. "A lot of gender-neutral stuff feels boring," Ms. Waterfield said. "This is definitely not boring." House of Hackney's Artemis Wallpaper, \$298 per roll, [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com)



**SOLUTION 2**  
**Add a simple but soft rocker.** "It's unfussy, without excessive detailing like brass tacks," said Heide Hendricks of this lulling chair. It diplomatically resolves the decor dispute by combining the crib's clean lines with the lamp's sensual curves, encouraging nursery harmony. The Sharon, Conn. designer also noted that the "little uptown detail with the brass runners" echoes the



crib's toe caps, while the visible weave of its upholstery mimics the homespun character of the lamp's woven-paper shade. Compass Rocker, \$899, [nursery-works.net](http://nursery-works.net)



**SOLUTION 3**  
**Introduce a handmade toy in a unifying palette.** Richmond, Va. interior designer Janie Molster's instinct is to inject a note of childlike whimsy with a pachydermatous mobile. The invitingly tactile elephants of felted, organic lambswool blend the rich, earthy hues of the "handsome and serious" crib with the lamp's paler tones and "hand-crafted vibe." Nurser-



ies don't need to be "juvenile or cute, but I do think they need a playful touch," Ms. Molster said. Mobile, \$148, [serenaandfly.com](http://serenaandfly.com)  
—Kimberly Chrisman-Campbell