

# Not Too Shabby Is Very Classy!

by Barbara Floyd

The "shabby" term in decorating has been floating around for some years now, and shops have embraced it in varying degrees. I would say that Not Too Shabby Owner Kim Rawlins and her "Shabby Posse" are quite committed to this decor!

The "Posse" is made up of three dealers and three regular consignors and a few crafts people who create vintage inspired frames, purses and other repurposed one-of-a-kind items. They pull together a delightful classy "shabby" store that flows well from one side to the other, including upstairs. The shop has lots of interesting spaces to fill and this team buys what they like themselves. It all fits together nicely and gives people some good options of how to incorporate a bit of shabby into any setting.

While not everything is all white or all pink, it has "the shabby look" that is so very in. You can check them out online at [www.nottooshabbyonline.com](http://www.nottooshabbyonline.com). They love to cater to their V. I. P. customers and believe that good old-fashioned

customer service helps keep their shop successful. Their prices are very fair, and they soon will have an online shopping cart and special offers. Online is useful, but walking into the shop is a WOW experience.

Kim has dubbed her fabulous husband, her "Shabby Prince" because he supports and believes in her and the shop. He gives her the time she needs to manage the business and encouraged her to open it in the first place. This "Shabby Prince" is the engineer with a creative side and maintains the web site. Their four children

help paint and all have an eye for finding buys at thrift stores and estate sales. Kim loves to go "junking" and gives her Great Grandmother credit for instilling her love for old things. This great grandmother had painted furniture, yellow cupboards (when yellow cupboards were not cool), made her own rag rugs and had little money. She collected "things," such as old spools of thread in a jar, old tins, marbles in canning



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jars, all of which made her home inviting and cozy with a personality that appealed to Kim. Because Kim's mom had been raised with these things, she in turn wanted all new furniture and decor because the other felt like "old stuff" or junk. When great grandma gave Kim a press back oak chair in 1977, she was thrilled and painted it white. Her long love affair with the shabby chic look has only increased since then.

Kim's ideas are endless and one was for a Woman's Networking Night where savvy women can get together and share ideas. The first one was held at the shop in February and plans for the future include creating lamp shades, gift certificate drawing, slip cover presentation, punch, coffee and goodies and vendors.

She also has lots of ideas in action to help in the community.

As we were visiting in her beautiful shop one sunny afternoon with the light pouring in the big double high windows, we got to talking about our mutual Minnesota roots. I wrote down names of her relatives and, that evening, I visited my brother and his wife, Jim and Helen Wheeler from Sebeka, MN, who winter in Phoenix and we talked about Kim's family. They personally knew each one of them, as small town

people seem to do. That was a fun connection, and a reminder that this world is not so big after all.

Open seven days a week, **Not Too Shabby**, located at 11649 N. Cave Creek Road in Phoenix, just south of Cactus Road, is definitely one great destination amongst several other shops that use that same address. It is well worth the drive from any corner of the city.

