



UPSI DAISY CREATIONS

Bespoke Children's Bedrooms

Do you remember your first bed as a child? For many of us, it was likely a standard base and mattress set, or perhaps a wooden frame, or standard pine bunk beds. Today, the options available for creating the ultimate personal space for your children are as limited as your imagination and your budget. When it comes to luxury bespoke bedroom furnishings and decor, Johannesburg-based Upsi Daisy Creations, takes the art of personal service to the next level.

Owner-designer Dee Edwards has been involved in creating beautiful spaces for the past 10 years. She earned her stripes in procurement, dressing luxury lodges under the guidance of the head designer at CC Africa & Beyond, but when her daughter was born, she realised that she wanted to spend more time with her. She left CC Africa & Beyond and spent a year working for her in-laws and husband Jono Edwards at Quantum Hospitality Projects, who designed, manufactured and installed soft furnishings in hotels, casinos and luxury lodges, and there she learned what she needed to know about the supplier's side of the business.

It was after numerous requests for children's beds and while struggling to find suitable beds and decor for her own children's bedrooms that she realised there was huge potential to provide bespoke solutions for the toddler to teen market. After researching the market further, she established Upsi Daisy Creations in 2011, initially offering five standard modular designs. In answer to requests for more customised solutions the company has grown today, to offer twenty-five standard modular options which can be customised according

to colour, cut-out design and specific usage requirements. The company's aim is to provide new and exciting designs to help make your child's room a place in which they can play, learn and slumber, safely. Their loft beds are perfect for the small to medium size bedrooms, which are common today. Upsi Daisy Creations ensures there is much fun and adventure for your little ones, who are sure to fall in love with the bright red Fire Station Bunk Bed, or enchanting Little Cottage loft-bed, both featuring a single top bed and space for double bed below, a tower bookcase, climbing wall and personalized detail. The Picture Perfect loft bed is a storybook cottage from the outside, with a panelled siding, decorative window-boxes and an attic window with shutters. Behind the attic window you'll find the perfect place to sleep while below you'll be delighted with the perfect living space, where your child can enjoy a sense of independence, with their toys and kitchen neatly tucked away.

For larger spaces there is the ultimate in bedroom furnishings, the Rhapsody Playtime Double Bunk Bed complete with double top and double bottom bed, a slide, a climbing wall, two ladders and two black boards, the perfect play and slumber solution for children sharing a room. The Tween Loft & Stairs is the perfect solution for children transitioning into their teens. Personalising the colours, cut-outs and couch fabrics, allows your tween to create a room that is funky, functional and unique. With the loft bed accessed by storage stairs, and a comfy couch, bookshelf and extendable desk below it's the perfect personal space for growing children.

Edwards says the design process is constantly evolving. They're always working hard to improve on the finer details to ensure the highest quality product is available to their clients. Her attention to detail and high standards of quality, mean that she is constantly updating her designs to work more efficiently, and to add longevity to the working parts, like ladders, trays and countertops.

It is the large variety of styles, and their bespoke, personal design and procurement service that makes their offering so appealing to their clients and sets them apart from their chain-store competitors. Edwards enjoys the creative process, and works closely with her clients, to create stunning tailor-made design concepts, which surprise and delight the young ones who will call these rooms their own. She begins with the specific room dimensions, and then explores and incorporates her client's personal preferences for colour, theme, and purpose into the plan.

While they have an exciting range of beds from which to choose, Edwards has also expanded Upsi Daisy's offering to include soft furnishings, including local and international designer linens, appliqué and embroidered linen, (including themes like the gorgeous Japanese Kokeshi dolls, Fairy Dust, Beach Bum, I love Paris, and Tweet – featuring the cutest little owls), and luxurios cottons and chambrays. She also supplies a large variety of wall decals, some of which can also be customised, to complement the bed and linen themes. Upsidaisy Creations wide range of unusual and delightful lighting is the perfect playful accompaniment for any child and teenager's bedroom. From a fairy godmother, to beautiful butterflies and bright, friendly ladybugs, or serious space rockets, to adventure-inspiring whimsical hot air balloons and squadrons of airplanes, there is a stylish light to suit every child's taste. Another popular item





on offer are the range of handcrafted wigwams and tents that are perfect for kids of all ages for both inside and outside play. They are easy to transport when flat packed and can be put up within minutes and are available in different colours and fabrics. Wigwams can be custom designed in fabrics and colours of your choice. One of our favourite discoveries, which we wish we had growing up, is the Table Playhouse Tents, which are suitable for square and rectangular dining tables. The gorgeous playhouses will keep your little ones entertained for hours and are easily packed away when not in use, simply fold the tent up, as you would a table cloth and store. These beautiful tents are available in designs and fabrics suitable for boys and girls. Upsi Daisy's hand furnishings are 100 percent hand-made at their workshop, and while they do offer a comprehensive standard range, Edwards is happy to work with you, creating a room that speaks directly to the personal tastes of your children. The cut-outs on the beds for example, can be changed to a design of your choice, which is then lovingly carved out by their talented carpenter. Graphics can also be printed directly on the super-wood and spray-varnished afterwards. They offer an impressive 18 paint colours as standard, but they're also happy to work with you - if you bring in a specific colour-swatch, they're happy to mix that colour and use it in your designs. Edwards says she loves it when families come through together; giving the children the opportunity to choose their own fabrics, cut-outs and colour schemes as she believes it gives the children a greater sense of ownership of their personal space. Once you've made your selections, Edwards provides you with a sketch of what your finished design will look like, which clearly shows the dimensions, colours and cut-outs that will be implemented. This gives you the opportunity to make any necessary tweaks, prior to the manufacture of your child's bed and supply of your soft furnishings. While they are Johannesburg-based, Upsi Daisy Creations offers a professional installation service in Johannesburg run by her husband's company QHP as well as teams in Durban and Cape Town. While they don't handle shipping directly, they work with the client's transport company to ensure that the product is delivered safely to them. For areas where installation isn't offered, Edwards encourages the client to send a local representative to visit the workshop, once the manufacturing of the bed is complete, to ensure that it is perfect before shipping. In addition, she takes step-by-step photos as the team are disassembling the bed for shipping so that you can use the photos as a reference to easily put them together at home. Edwards has a strong commitment to providing the highest quality products and a personal service to her clients. Each item that leaves their workshop is created with love that it may bring joy to your children for years to come. ■ Lindsay Grubb

www.upsidaisycrations.co.za

Wonderland

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