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From Aging Trailer to Fabulous Glamper

A Portland couple converts an antique motor home into the retro-inspired camper of their dreams.

By Claire Colby 9/27/2016 at 10:38am

Here in the Pacific Northwest, with our rolling hills blanketed with evergreens and streams, rivers, and waterfalls, it's easy to develop a serious case of wanderlust. For some, communing with nature via tent camping is the way to go, while others prefer a few more layers of separation between them and the Great Outdoors.

When Portland couple Scott and Jane Morrill, lifelong campers and nature lovers, learned about glampers, they knew that they wanted to get in on the action.



"AFTER" IMAGES: SALLY PAINTER

"We wanted to make camping glamorous and upscale," explains Scott.

To get started, the couple purchased a 1967 Aristocrat Lo-Liner in Clarkston, Washington for \$3,000. They dubbed the trailer Prince Charles—Chuck for short, they say, so they could just "chuck [their] stuff in him and go."

The Morrills turned to Portland-based designer **Peg Christensen** of **Ash Pierce Design**, who had worked with them on a home remodel in the past, to bring their dream glamper to life.

"I would say that it's just for the pure joy of it—the beauty and the joy," says Christensen. "They can take this little interesting pod, this place for them to live, with them all over the continent and they can keep it in the garage too. This is a portable feast for the eyes."



Christensen's final design is a festively colorful combination of functionality and fabulousness, featuring a vibrant 1960s-inspired interior, complete with red Marmoleum floors, a pink glitter ceiling, a red glitter kiss print wall treatment, and retro beaded privacy curtains.

Despite the color and texture explosion of the inside, the couple opted to leave the exterior in its original condition with the addition of an awning. Why? Because seeing the look of surprise and joy on visitors' faces was just too good to beat.

"In Lee's Ferry Campground at Vermilion Cliffs National Monument in Arizona, a lady who was camping in a gigantic, fully self-contained RV stopped by," says Scott. "We were having a glass of wine while sitting under our awning at our bistro set. We invited her to take a look inside. Her eyes got wide and she smiled and exclaimed, 'How wonderful!'"