

June 1, 2007

## AERIN LAUDER'S CLOSET CONFIDENTIAL

On the eve of launching a new collection for her family's beauty brand that celebrates her grandmother Estée, Lauder opens her wardrobe and talks about her cool, confident style

By ALEXANDRA PARNASS

When cosmetics executive Aerin Lauder first viewed the apartment that was to become



Photo credit: Anders Overgaard

her Park Avenue home, she turned a corner and knew she had found what she was looking for. "I had dreamed since I was a little girl of having a room of my own, a place to hide. This room was perfect: It is my dressing room, my closet, and my home office," explains the 37-year-old mother of two. Inspired by similar rooms that her grandmother, icon Estée Lauder, had in all her homes (right down to the Gracie wallpaper), Lauder has created an oasis. But she admits that she, her Manolos, and her iBook are rarely alone. "There's always Legos all over the floor, and my sons play hide-and-seek in the closets." Filled with a vintage Gabriella Crespi desk, a mirror inherited from Estée, a chandelier Lauder picked up at a Paris auction, bouquets of peonies, and oh so many beautiful shoes, the closet is a girly paradise. Says Lauder, "I'm surrounded by all boys. I wanted a place that would be feminine and floral." Appropriately, she has filled her armoires with a well-edited selection of ladylike finds that make it easy to see why she is known for looking effortlessly chic. Staples include white blouses from Chloé and Calvin Klein, colorful dresses from Yves Saint Laurent and Gucci, and an eclectic mix of accessories, both vintage (Estée's Hermès Birkin bags) and modern (Lanvin bangles). Says her friend Michael Kors, "Aerin continues the legacy of stylish American women like C.Z. Guest and Jackie O., who combine the idea of simplicity and luxury with an eye toward quality and timelessness."



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Lauder gives her dog a treat over her Gabriella Crespi desk.