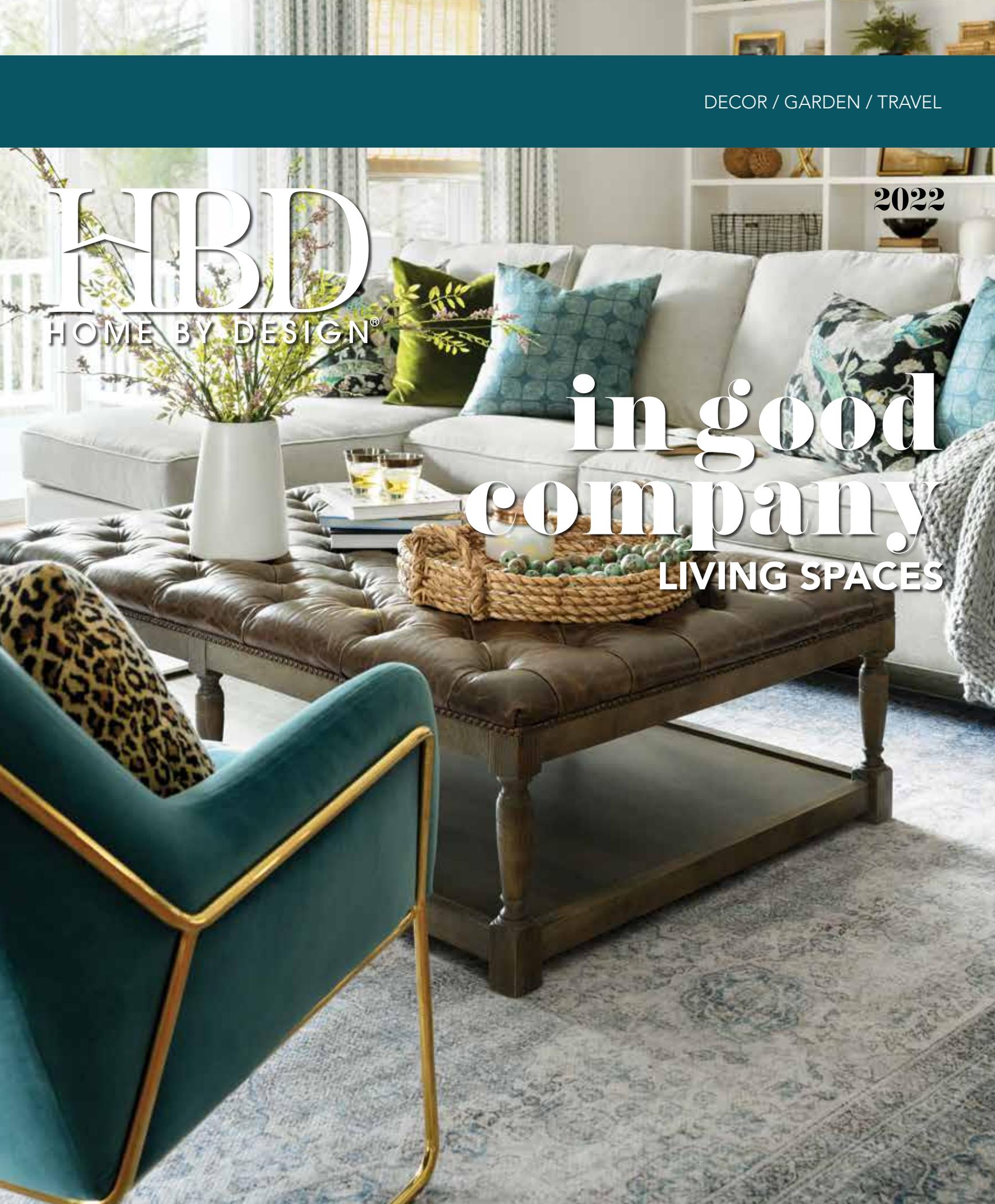


HBD
HOME BY DESIGN®

2022

**in good
company**
LIVING SPACES





in good company

Today is as good a time as any to gather. History reminds us to not take commonplace interactions for granted. Instead, spend your time enjoying the experiences, both over-the-top and everyday—like going on that once-in-a-lifetime trip or having a friend or two over for coffee.

In this issue, we spotlight the places where we gather: living spaces. These rooms wear many hats, but accommodating family, friends, kiddos, and pets is often at the top of the list. The featured designs give us a glimpse at spaces set up for success in Texas, Massachusetts, Arizona, and Quebec. And our whole-house design brings us to the beach in Southern California. A visit to the ocean is truly a sensory experience. If such an experience inspires you, take that feeling home by planting a sensory garden in your own backyard. Turn to our garden department for guidance on creating your own. Looking for total zen? Check out the body-work basics in our lifestyle department; you may find some helpful health guidance. Although pasta might not be revered as the most healthful food, it can be good for the soul—especially when enjoyed family-style with your favorite people. Turn to our food department for a menu of sauce recipes and guidance for making fresh pasta at home. If you're in the mood to dine out and pair a pasta dish with a wine flight, take a trip to the Hudson River Valley, New York. Our destination department is chock-full of travel tips to help you savor the experience.

As always, thank you for your business, support, and friendship. If you are ever in need of professional assistance and advice, please do not hesitate to call. You can be assured that your needs will be met with the utmost integrity and professionalism. 

Built-in Bonus.

Maximizing space is a boon for any design. One simple way to do that, and something you'll see throughout this issue, is the use of built-in pieces. From benches to bookshelves, built-ins are stylish workhorses for storage, display, and seating too.

**“It is such a happiness when
good people get together—and
they always do.”**

—Jane Austen, *Emma*



contents

2022

FEATURES

LIVING SPACES

- 20 Familial Charm
- 24 Openly Bold
- 28 No Bad Angles
- 32 The Great Divide

DEPARTMENTS

- 1 Moments
- 4 **Inspirations:** Intertwined
- 6 **In the Kitchen:** That's Amore
- 14 **Lifestyle:** Body Work
- 16 **Gardening:** Sensory Gardens
- 36 **Whole House:** Beauty by the Beach
- 44 **Destination:** Hudson River Valley, New York

6 Homemade pasta cooks quickly and tastes *deliziosa!*

Photography by (this page) Kristel Matousek of Photoreal Food, (opposite) MTL Interiors.



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intertwined

A COLLECTION OF WOVEN PIECES THAT LEND
NATURAL SOPHISTICATION TO YOUR LIVING SPACES



Michi Woven Accent Chair: Classic slipper chair inspired by Danish design / www.crateandbarrel.com

Woven Globe Ceiling Light: Inspired by beaded necklace jewelry worn by Ndebele women in South Africa / www.54kibo.com

Dorado Throw Pillow: Desert-color base is handloomed with a geometric pattern / www.cb2.com



Advika Accent Rug: Kick-off-your-shoes cozy with soft New Zealand wool / www.the-citizenry.com

Banana Bark Bowl: Handwoven, organic centerpiece bowl / www.arhaus.com

Lineage Woven Throw: Canvas for showcasing traditional motifs by Kravitz Design / www.cb2.com

Woven Leather Pouf: Chocolate-leather strips provide rich color, texture, and vintage vibes / www.cb2.com





that's amore

PASTA AND SAUCE PAIRINGS

RECIPES AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY KRISTEL MATOUSEK
WWW.PHOTORICALFOOD.COM

Pasta: simple, yet complex; comforting yet crave-able. Want to bring these family-style dishes to your table but aren't sure where to start? I've curated a list of recipes to empower your creativity in making your own pasta from home, paired with equally delicious sauces made to highlight each pasta shape. A meaty Bolognese works best with tubular garganelli that fill up with meat and sauce. Pesto pools in the dimples of orecchiette, while a browned-butter sauce with a nutty flavor lightly coats and complements tortellini. Red and white sauces both wrap around broad or long pasta like farfalle and fettucine. Add a touch of creaminess to a finished sauce by tossing cooked pasta with some of the hot reserved starch water (left over from cooking the pasta) before serving. *Buon appetito!*

pasta

Yields 1 pound dough

2½ cups all-purpose
or semolina flour
3 eggs, beaten
2 tablespoons olive oil

Pour flour in a mound on a clean surface. Using your fingers, create a “bowl” in the center of the mound. Pour the beaten eggs and oil into the flour bowl. Work the flour from the outside until fully combined, creating a ball. Knead dough for 10 minutes until a smooth, elastic ball forms. Wrap dough in plastic and let rest for 1 hour.

Roll out dough to create a pasta sheet and make desired shapes. When finished, let pasta dry on a floured surface for 15 minutes prior to cooking.

Farfalle (Bow Tie): Cut pasta sheet into 1-inch squares. Pinch the center of each square to form the bow tie shape. If needed, use a touch of egg white as glue to hold it together.

Fettuccine: Roll pasta sheet from end to end, then cut into ¼-inch strips.

Garganelli: Cut pasta sheet into 1-inch squares. Place each square on a ribbed pasta board. Fold the corner of the square over a wooden dowel or chopstick, and with a little downward pressure, roll the pasta until it connects with the opposite corner and seals.

Tortellini: Cut pasta sheet into 2½- to 3-inch circles. Place filling into center of each circle. Lightly wet the outer edge of half the circle with egg whites, then fold the dry side over to enclose the filling, making a half-moon shape. Grab one corner with your left hand between your index finger and thumb, and the other corner with your right index and thumb, bend pasta over your pinky, and wrap to connect the corners.

Orecchiette: On a floured surface, roll the dough in the shape of a snake. Cut into small pieces and roll into balls. Place each ball on a ribbed pasta board and press down with a forward motion, creating an ear-like shape.



fettuccine

farfalle

orecchiette

garganelli

tortellini

ADDING COLOR.

When making pasta, use freeze-dried powders or spices for vibrant colors. For green pasta, sub ½ cup flour for spinach or peas. For red, sub ½ cup flour for beets. For purple, sub ½ cup flour for purple sweet potato. For yellow, add ½ teaspoon turmeric.

creamy farfalle with prosciutto & peas

Serves 4

½ pound farfalle
 1 tablespoon butter
 3 cloves garlic
 ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
 1 cup heavy cream
 ½ cup Parmesan,
 plus more for garnish
 ½ cup peas
 2 slices prosciutto, diced
 Salt and pepper to your tastes
 1 slice prosciutto cut into
 ribbons, for garnish

Add ½ pound farfalle pasta to a pot of lightly salted boiling water. Cook the pasta al dente then remove from the water, retaining the hot liquid.

Preheat a saucepan over moderate heat. Melt the butter, then add the garlic and nutmeg, cooking until aromatic, approximately 30 seconds. Deglaze the pan with heavy cream, then bring to a simmer and reduce slightly.

Whisk in the Parmesan cheese. Once melted and fully combined, add the peas and diced prosciutto. Taste and season with salt and pepper as needed.

At time of service, toss the farfalle in the sauce to coat, adjusting consistency as needed with the hot reserved starch water. Garnish with freshly grated Parmesan and ribbons of prosciutto. Serve immediately.



fettuccine with vodka sauce

Serves 4

2 tablespoons (1 ounce)
olive oil
1 cup (4 ounces)
small-diced onion
2 cloves garlic minced
¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes
2 tablespoons (4 ounces)
tomato paste
3 tablespoons (1.5 fluid
ounces) vodka
1 (28-ounce) can
San Marzano-style tomatoes
1 cup (8 fluid ounces)
vegetable or chicken stock
½ cup (2 ounces) cashews
½ pound dried fettuccine pasta
Water as needed
Salt as needed, to your tastes
Green olives, for garnish

Preheat a large saucepan or Dutch oven over moderate heat and add the oil. Sweat the onions in the oil to soften. Add the garlic and red pepper flakes, cooking until aromatic 20 to 30 seconds. Stir in the tomato paste and cook to darken slightly. Deglaze the pan with vodka, simmering to reduce until almost dry.

Add the tomatoes, stock, and cashews. Stir and bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer. Cover and cook for 15 minutes. Use a stand or immersion blender to blend smooth.

Add fettuccine pasta to a separate pot of lightly salted boiling water. Cook the pasta al dente, then remove from the water, reserving the liquid.

Pour the prepared sauce over the pasta, adjusting sauce consistency as needed with the hot reserved liquid. Season with salt to your tastes. Garnish with green olives, and serve warm.

ADD A PROTEIN.
Tastes great with
grilled chicken breast
or Italian seasoned
ground sausage.



sage & garlic browned butter tortellini

Serves 2

9 ounces 4-cheese tortellini
 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
 1½ cups sliced mushrooms
 6 fresh sage leaves
 3 cloves garlic, minced
 Salt and pepper to your tastes

Add tortellini pasta to a pot of boiling water. Cook uncovered 3 to 5 minutes until they float to the surface, then strain off the water.

While the tortellini cooks, preheat a skillet over moderate heat. Melt the butter in the pan and toss the mushrooms and sage in the butter to coat. Sauté the mushrooms until golden brown.

Reduce heat to low, add the garlic, cooking until aromatic 20 to 30 seconds. Remove from heat, add tortellini to the skillet, and coat in the browned butter. Season with salt and pepper to your tastes, and serve immediately.

ADD A PROTEIN.
 Tastes great with chicken, Italian seasoned ground sausage, or pancetta.



garganelli with eggplant bolognese

Serves 4

2 tablespoons (1 ounce)
olive oil
½ cup (2 ounces) pancetta or
uncooked bacon, small dice
1 cup (2 ounces) eggplant,
medium dice
½ cup (2 ounces) onion,
small dice
½ cup (2 ounces) celery,
small dice
½ cup (2 ounces) carrots,
small dice
1 pound ground pork
3 cloves garlic
1 (28-ounce) can
San Marzano-style tomatoes
2 bay leaves
1 cup water or low-sodium
vegetable stock, additional
as needed
½ pound dried garganelli
Salt as needed
Parmesan, for garnish

Preheat a saucepan over moderately high heat. Sauté the pancetta in oil until slightly browned. Add the eggplant, onion, celery, and carrots to the pan and sweat to soften.

Add the ground pork and cook until no longer pink. Stir in the garlic and cook until aromatic, 20 to 30 seconds.

Pulse the tomatoes in a blender for 3 to 4 seconds before adding them to the saucepan, along with the bay leaf and vegetable stock. Stir together and bring to a simmer. Cover with a lid and let it simmer for 2 hours. Check occasionally, adding more stock if needed to prevent scorching. Taste and season with salt to your tastes.

Add the garganelli to a separate pot of lightly salted boiling water. Cook the pasta al dente then remove from the water, retaining the liquid.

Adjust the consistency of the sauce with the retained liquid if needed. Toss the cooked pasta in the sauce to coat. Garnish with Parmesan, and serve.



orecchiette with pesto sauce

Serves 4

Prepared pesto, as needed
(recipe below)
½ pound dried orecchiette pasta
Cherry tomatoes, for garnish

Pesto

½ cup (1.25 ounces) grated Parmesan
2 tablespoons pine nuts or cashews
3 cloves roasted garlic
2 cups (1.5 ounces) basil leaves
¼ cup olive oil
Salt to your tastes

To make the pesto, combine the cheese, pine nuts, and garlic in a food processor. Pulse until finely chopped. Add the basil leaves. Turn on the processor and slowly add the oil as it processes. Blend smooth. Taste and season with salt as needed. Use right away, or store in an airtight container and refrigerate for later use. To prevent oxidation and browning while storing, cover the top with a little olive oil to protect it from the air.

Add orecchiette pasta to a separate pot of lightly salted boiling water. Cook the

pasta al dente then remove from the water, retaining the liquid.

Immediately combine the hot pasta with your desired amount of prepared pesto sauce, tossing to coat. For a creamier sauce consistency, add a few teaspoons of the hot retained liquid to the pasta as you toss them in the pesto. Garnish with cherry tomatoes, and serve warm.

ADD A PROTEIN.
Tastes great with grilled chicken breast, shrimp, or Italian seasoned ground sausage.



body work

HEALTH TREATMENTS
FROM HEAD TO TOE

WRITTEN BY BLAKE MILLER

In the last decade, the integration of complementary medicine within conventional medicine has seen an increase as people are looking for more natural approaches to bettering their health. And more than half of Americans say they use alternative medicine treatments in their healthcare and self-care routines. “Complementary medicine is vital to your overall health,” says Bill Daniels, a certified personal trainer and corrective exercise specialist (NASM) and certified strength and conditioning coach (CSCS) based in Walnut Creek, California. “If you only rely on western medicine, you are missing a huge piece of the puzzle. By

taking the time to practice self-care such as exercise, acupuncture, chiropractic, or whatever other modes work for you, you are allowing your body to recover in ways that medication just can’t do.”

Here’s a look at the most common—and helpful—alternative medicine options available today.

Myofascial Release.

Basic Background: “Myofascial release is a body-work technique that uses sustained, gentle-to-firm pressure that allows the fascia—such as the Iliotibial Band (IT) that runs from the pelvic bone to the shin bone—to relax and

unwind,” explains Brittany Herzberg, LMFT, a massage therapist in Apex, North Carolina. “The IT Band is the best known example of fascia. That type of tissue weaves all up and down your body. It’s a giant web that holds you together.” And if it becomes too tight, it can pull on your knee or hip, for example, and result in chronic joint pain.

Who Should Try It: “If you battle chronic pain and tension, you may want to see if myofascial release is a good fit,” says Herzberg. “Clients often comment on how they feel calmer because their nervous system is at ease and looser because the fascia isn’t as bound up as it once was. Many of my massage clients who are serious—or even amateur—athletes or desk



detox your body

You are what you eat, quite literally, so sometimes we need to flush out the toxins built up from consuming processed foods, gluten, meat, and dairy, which are often the cause of chronic gut health issues. A water detox is a great option to detoxify your gut. “Water detox helps remove toxins from the body,” explains Lea McMahon LPC, EdD, with Symetria Recovery based in Illinois and Texas. “You can add lemon and cucumbers in lukewarm water. This is used by many people to control their weight. But that’s not the only benefit. The release of toxins from the body can improve your immunity and metabolic rate, which keeps you energized throughout the day. That is because you are hydrated.”

jockeys who sit at a desk all day long seek out this type of work. They know their bodies are tight in certain areas and have found myofascial release to be an effective body-work tool.”

Nerve Flossing.

Basic Background: Nerve flossing is a technique used to gently mobilize the nerves and therefore improve range of motion and reduce pain in the joints.

Who Should Try It: “Nerve flossing is a technique I use both for myself and for clients regularly,” says Daniels. “I use it for people who have pain in joints and muscles but can’t seem to pinpoint what the

cause is. What I have found working with people is that the nerve can become impinged by either scar tissue or within a joint and it needs some light tensioning to get it free. I think of it like a hose with a kink. If the water can’t get through well, then you don’t get a great output. Think of it like the signal from the brain can’t travel at full force through the nerve to the muscle.”

Reiki.

Basic Background: “Reiki is a Japanese energy channeling modality, which stimulates the flow of energy through the body to restore mental, physical, and emotional wellness,” explains Luke Bonecutter, a spiritual coun-

selor in San Antonio, Texas. “Using crystals, sounds, elemental correspondences, and other channeling techniques, this treatment can help manage chronic pain or stiffness, comfort anxious feelings in the body, balance and realign energy centers, remove mental and emotional blockages, and strengthen the aura.”

Who Should Try It: Everyone. “Reiki is recommended both as preventative and reactive treatment to keep the body’s energy balanced, therefore anyone can try and benefit from Reiki,” says Shanise Spruill, certified holistic health practitioner based in Indian Head, Maryland. “Reiki is often used to help reduce persons under stress, high performers, as well as those who suffer from anxiety.” ■

sensory gardens

DESIGN TO ENGAGE
ALL FIVE SENSES

WRITTEN BY RONDA SWANEY

Gardeners often choose plants for how they look—the color or the shape of their flowers and leaves. Gardens focused on appearance alone provide beauty and solace. But engaging all five senses—sight, smell, sound, touch, and taste—makes a garden more enticing and immersive.

Sensory gardens can make the experience more enjoyable for those with vision or hearing impairment. They are great teaching tools, helping children explore the natural world through all their senses. The benefits of gardening on mental and physical health are well documented for people of all ages. Exposure to sunshine and nature provides a mood boost, and the physical activity of creating and

maintaining a garden improves strength, dexterity, and flexibility.

A sensory garden can also improve your health through specific senses. Fragrances trigger the limbic system (the part of the brain that helps us process memories and emotions). For example, lavender is said to prompt relaxation, while some studies find that a minty fragrance increases alertness. Sounds can also be soothing; birdsongs, trickling water fountains, or rustling leaves may provide a sense of peace for listeners. Babies touch soft things to soothe themselves; that soothing action can stay with us into adulthood, which makes touching soft, fuzzy plants a calming activity to soothe a busy mind. Lean on the following ideas to construct a more immersive garden and create a feast for the senses.

Sight.

Plants offer the most obvious appeal to sight. Group flowers by color by either pairing all warm or all cool hues, or blending a combination of hues. Mix up foliage as well, contrasting dark-green leaves with variegated, greenish-yellow or even silvery options. Plants aren't the only sight-related elements that can be added to a garden. A reflecting pool, gazing balls, mirrors, and moon or keyhole gates that frame a view all add interesting visuals.

Smell.

Roses, lilies, gardenias, and honeysuckle are top picks for imbuing a garden with fragrance. Add herbs for savory, citrusy, and



sweet smells too. Good options include mint, chives, rosemary, thyme, or lemon balm.

Sound.

Ornamental grasses rustle gently when blown by the wind. Water features provide soothing sounds. Pathway paving, such as gravel, river rock, or pea pebbles, crunch when walked on. Insect-attracting plants add the buzz of bees as they pollinate the garden and other surrounding flora. Wind chimes can also be a charming audible addition.

Touch.

Interior design focuses on texture. Velvet, jute, silk, and tweed, for example, each elicit different sensations and feelings when touched. The same is true for plants. The bark of trees provides a rough texture. The leaves of an Artemisia shrub are gentle to the touch. Fountain grass tufts also offer a pleasing texture. Succulents, like hens and chicks,

provide a harder and sometimes pricklier surface. Hardscape features, like cedar fencing or galvanized steel planters, add to the mix of textures in the garden.

Taste.

Herbs, fruits, and vegetables provide the obvious options for appealing to taste in your garden. Edible flowers, such as pansies, roses, violets, and nasturtiums, offer another avenue to explore this sense. Use caution, however. Choose edible varieties and do not treat them with pesticides or other chemicals. Be sure they are washed before consumption.

Next Steps.

What steps can you take to create your own sensory garden? It may be easier than you think. First, take stock of what you have now. Inventory your garden and note the various senses that your plants, containers, and hardscape appeal to. That list will help identify missing senses you

can expand on in your garden. Also consider the pathways through your garden. If your goal is to provide an immersive experience, pathways should lead visitors close to plants that offer a pleasing fragrance or a pleasant touch.

As you plan your garden, think through how it will change with the seasons and how you can make it a year-round experience. Choose plants that appeal to senses throughout the year. For example, a crape myrtle tree provides a beautiful sight during summer (its blooming season) and autumn (when many varieties sport leaves that turn deep, rich colors). In winter, the tree bark peels back, providing an interesting surface to touch, while also revealing new colors beneath the surface.

Beauty may be in the eye of the beholder, but natural beauty extends beyond what we see. A sensory garden helps deepen your experience of the natural world as you incorporate sight, smell, sound, touch, and taste into your landscaping plans. ■

**in good
company.**





IF YOU ARE LOOKING TO SWITCH UP THE SHARED SPACES IN YOUR HOME, WHETHER FOR EFFICIENCY OR STYLE, YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE. ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES, WE HIGHLIGHT THE VALUE OF BEING IN GOOD COMPANY AND INVITE YOU TO DRAW INSPIRATION FROM AND FIND COMMONALITY WITH OTHER HOUSEHOLDS THROUGH THEIR SMART LIVING SPACES.

In the family room of one clan's Bedford, Massachusetts home, designer Jamie Keskin layered plenty of welcoming touches, including plush velvet pillows, textural baskets for throw blankets, gleaming brass hardware, and lots of lush greenery.

familial charm.

FROM BLANK SLATE TO FRESH START

At their most cluttered, family rooms are catchalls for toys, books, sports equipment, and other ephemera from childhood gone astray. But they don't have to be. When this family enlisted designer Jamie Keskin to add style to their suburban Bedford, Massachusetts home, they ushered in an era when form meets organized function in the space. "These clients reached out to me after they moved here from California—they're a young family with three children," says Keskin. "They bought a house and worked with the builder to specify the finishes they wanted. You could call it a spec house to an extent." Their brand-new home epitomized the wife's style, which was "really a mix: traditional and eclectic, with plenty of vintage," the designer says. "So it was really fun to work on the project."

To add necessary charm and plentiful storage to the family room, given its blank slate of white walls and blonde-wood floors, they hired a contractor—Highline Construction, also of Bedford—to create built-ins. "I had the idea of doing built-ins because there was nowhere to store things, and they're a great way to have visual interest while accessorizing in ways that make a space feel bigger and draw the eyes up," says Keskin. "We added shiplap to the backs of the shelves and added library sconces to make it all a little more unique and personal." Also supplying bountiful eye candy: a mix of objects that lend texture thanks to their varied surfaces, including rattan baskets from Serena & Lily, oil paintings, stoneware jugs, and graphic wire sculptures alongside artfully placed books. "I'm all about layering in different fabrics and materials so it feels cozy," she says.

In the adjacent sitting area, Keskin opted for furniture that would stand the test of time—a prescient move in a family home. "For any project I do, I keep fabric durable," the designer says. "The sectional

was indoor-outdoor, and the dark turquoise-blue velvet chairs from Anthropologie [now discontinued] hide things—plus velvet is easy to clean. I knew she loved green and turquoise blue, and threw in a pop of purple!" Keskin also advises investing in the nicest quality sectional you can afford; this one is from Lee Industries, which makes its furniture in North Carolina. "The most expensive thing you're going to purchase in the room should be the sectional," she says. After all, pandemic schedules had people spending more time on their sofa than ever—so you may as well make it a good one.

Alongside this perch, Keskin placed the clients' previously purchased distressed leather ottoman with a tufted top and a layer of table underneath where homeowners can tuck away magazines, games, and books. "It's great to put your feet on, and it's easy to wipe the leather if there's a spill," she says. And it's possible to use as a traditional coffee table, especially with the addition of a tray for holding drinks within easy reach—no wobbling necessary. Ensuring this revamp was

WRITTEN BY KATHRYN O'SHEA-EVANS / PHOTOGRAPHY BY TAMARA FLANAGAN







CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: A pendant light from Visual Comfort gives the feel of a garden conservatory to the breakfast nook. "Oversized family photos placed asymmetrically add interest," says Keskin of the images in CB2 frames, adding that their black-and-white tone gives a vintage look. A scalloped mirror supplies a fanciful note. Throw pillows in sundry hues and patterns can be swapped out frequently to update the feeling in a space. Velvet chairs from Anthropologie beg guests to sit for some much-needed R&R.

as sustainable as possible, the family also kept their existing bone-inlay table and arc floor lamp. Saddled up to one arm of the sectional: woven baskets in sculptural shapes that look so beautiful they may as well be art pieces, but double as yet another (very key) storage spot.

Abutting the open kitchen nearby, the family starts their mornings right in the breakfast nook, which is now complete with a built-in window seat. "It's so cozy under the window and adds a bit of a farmhouse feel," she says, adding that she upholstered the seat in a hard-wearing indoor-outdoor Perennials fabric that's easy to clean. "This is a newer house, so my point was to make it feel more charming and personal and cozy by adding these built-ins." Tucked under the freestanding Four Hands table, the window seat has multiple drawers for additional storage—a boon in any cookspace. "They loved the idea of storing place mats under there, extra toys, and craft stuff." Adding a note of vintage cool: wishbone chairs, originally designed in 1949 by Danish furniture legend Hans Wegner and incredibly popular for their undisputed comfort factor.

When the client longed to add a gallery wall to the breakfast nook, Keskin advised oversize photographs of their family in a throwback black-and-white palette. "They had some really good photos—and we kept it simple in black and white since color was going on everywhere else," she says. Casting a fairytale glow over the scene of memories old and new: a transfixing lantern pendant from Visual Comfort that, thanks to its glass and gilded iron frame, twinkles by both day and night. ■

“With how open everything is, [the great room] sets the tone for your day almost,” designer Hanna McDougall says of this open-concept home. Recurring design elements and textiles—like the moody navy and brass finishes—make the space feel finished and warm.

openly bold.

DETAILS BUILD COHESION IN
THIS OPEN-CONCEPT GREAT ROOM

One room quickly turned into three when designer Hanna McDougall began working with the homeowners of this Queen Creek, Arizona home. A recent renovation had refreshed their shared living spaces, but they needed help making the open layout feel cohesive and intentional. The clients saw a striking feature wall McDougall designed for a previous project and wanted something similar to enliven their great room.

“I think feature walls make such a big difference in a room,” says McDougall. “They give the eye somewhere to land. In our Arizona floor plans, just about every floor plan is pretty open concept. And I think that’s what we all like about our homes, but there’s definitely a need to be strategic about how to define certain spaces . . . and focal walls are one way to do that.”

Founder of Phoenix area-based Lace & Grace Interiors, McDougall enjoys joining a project directly after a remodel or new build. Focusing on cosmetic adjustments and custom touches allows her to work closely with a client on the details, crafting a space that feels uniquely them.

“[This client] requested a dark, bolder color,” explains the designer, who chose Dark Night by Sherwin-Williams for the feature wall. “It’s a very dark blue, but not in the sense that it goes toward a nautical or traditional look. It has enough teal in it that it kept it fun and modern.”

With a background in the furniture industry, McDougall understands the importance of placement, from texture to pattern to

color. To keep the space cohesive, McDougall carried elements from the great room into the kitchen and adjoining room with the pool table.

“Usually when I’m using a color or metal, I try and repeat it three times. . . . And then you try to put those strategically in a triangle or a distance apart from each other so it doesn’t create too much weight on that side of the house,” says the designer.

McDougall added shiplap to the wraparound kitchen island, complementing the texture of the feature wall, and painted it the same rich hue. Brass elements can be found in many of the space’s light fixtures, from the Hudson Valley pendant lights in the kitchen to the dining room chandelier and existing installment over the pool table. Art featured on the great room’s floating shelves echoes the metallic finish.

With windows spanning the kitchen wall and a large, sliding-glass door leading to the backyard, natural light streams through the home. Earthy elements like the Crate & Barrel live-edge dining table and low-slung, abstract chairs invite the outside in, keeping the room grounded.

WRITTEN BY VICTORIA HITTNER / PHOTOGRAPHY BY LIFE CREATED







Windows and sliding doors—“glass walls” as McDougall calls them—left little room for framed art. The designer played with textiles and patterns in the furniture and accents to keep the eye entertained. “The abstract [chairs] were sort of like our art in the middle of the room,” she says.

“The thing about these larger homes with the big, open rooms—[these] ceilings were at least eleven-feet high—is you still have to have substantial weight with furniture pieces. Otherwise, it will look like you put apartment furniture in a big home.”

Open layouts can feel spacious and airy, but not necessarily cozy. “A room just needs layers to look finished,” says McDougall. She introduced warmth through texture and layers, from the great-room rug to the throw blanket and even pillows on the accent chairs.

“It means a lot to people to be able to come home and really feel relaxed in their space,” notes McDougall. “And so ultimately, that’s always my goal.”

Repeated details helped craft a continuous narrative for the open-concept space. Whether it’s a bold feature wall or natural textiles, incorporating elements that make the house feel like home to her clients is a top priority for McDougall. It even inspired her business name.

“*Lace* stands for the beautiful items that we want to add to their life and their home, and *Grace* is the manner in which I want to do it,” explains the designer. “It’s taking care of people’s feelings, as well as their homes.” ■

filling your open floor plan.

Hanna McDougall of Lace & Grace Interiors (www.laceandgraceinteriors.com) shares a few tips for choosing and placing furniture in a spacious room.

First Impressions. “Think about where you would enter the room and keep that space open,” suggests McDougall. “Put the item that looks like it has more visual weight farthest from the entrance.” Start there when mapping out furniture placement.

Measurements Matter. To keep a space looking balanced, complementary pieces and accessories—like rugs or coffee tables—should be to scale with the rest of your furniture.

Mix Materials. Variety is key when it comes to textiles and texture. Maintaining a balance keeps the design feeling natural and fresh. “In the case [of this design],” she says, “there were two wood chairs that really grabbed your attention because of the fun design. So I did a cement coffee table so that I wasn’t warming the space up too much.”

Designer Ginger Curtis added character to a monochromatic color palette with prominent mixed metals, thoughtfully selecting pieces that wouldn't add weight to the space, such as the structural end tables. "They feel a little architectural and I love that about them," says Curtis. "They're interesting, they're simple, but they're open, so it doesn't feel like there's something blocking the access point on the ends of the sofa."

no bad angles.

A PICTURE-PERFECT SPACE FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

When Ginger Curtis, owner and principal designer at Urbanology Designs, was tasked with elevating the interiors of this Dallas, Texas home, she knew she'd be drawing elegance out of the most simple monochrome of all. She wondered, "How do we take a black-and-white palette and elevate it so that it's beautiful, but also very on-brand?"

For this particular project, the idea of remaining on-brand was crucial. Her client, Ashley Robertson, is the founder of lifestyle and beauty blog, *The Teacher Diva*. Marrying her client's established public persona with the design of a practical space for a family of four remained top-of-mind throughout, but especially in the living room.

"One of the things that I was really aware of and thinking through for each angle of that room is that she's an influencer and this is her home, and every part of her life is her business," Curtis shares. "I really wanted to make sure that that every angle of that room and all the rooms were effortless, so that when she was walking through the house in her pajamas and slippers and she she's grabbing some content, she didn't have to think about it; everything is there and done. But then at the same time, it's livable."

With that in mind, she adopted one rule: no awkward corners. Balancing the dual purposes of her space led Curtis to design what can be considered a live-in creative studio. It's both styled to Robertson's taste—chic-modern, as Curtis describes it—and highly functional.

The two sofas centering the living room, for example, are covered in performance fabric. Off-white linen is a bit more forgiving than the stark-white paint color dressing the walls, while contrasting black velvet adds dimension to the area. Curtis personalized the seating area with patterned throw pillows and anchored it with a metal, drum-shaped coffee table, topped with a simple trio of a tray, candle, and fresh flowers. Finally, she kept it from looking overly chic with a set of leather sling chairs.

No matter where you're seated in this central area, you're guaranteed a picture-perfect vignette. The black sofa sits in front of sweeping windows overlooking the backyard, "so it helps to frame one of the most natural focal points in the house," says Curtis. The sling chairs, meanwhile, present an edgier scene, backed by a pair of Justyn Chapman prints and a structural Rejuvenation sconce, and given a casual air with a simple wood side table and wispy olive tree—faux, by request.

Behind the linen sofa, you get a more familial view, opening onto the kitchen. Architectural details like the ceiling beams lend a natural

WRITTEN BY ALISSA SCHULMAN / PHOTOGRAPHY BY MATTI GRESHAM







“Our rooms will always feel a little more pared back than overdone every time because I do not want to stuff a room,” says Curtis. To maintain both physical and visual lightness, she creates maneuverable walkways by spacing out large furniture, and then brings in accessories that elevate the themes already present: thin frames, ceramics, and candlesticks placed on the shelves mirror the colors and materials seen throughout the room.

communication between the two rooms, which made it easy for Curtis to blend the open floor plan. She further connected the distinct spaces with a uniform color palette and materials. “The thought is creating a sense of cohesiveness,” she says. “You don’t want it to be jarring from the flow of the kitchen to the living room.”

Curtis gravitates toward the same visual landing point whether standing at the kitchen sink or sitting on a sofa: the in-wall fireplace, tucked between two built-in bookshelves and quietly beneath the Frame TV, which itself is disguised with an artistic, black-and-white image. Two wood stools below offer a kiss of warmth. “It’s kind of stunning in a way, but so simple,” says Curtis. “It’s a moment of peacefulness that really helps to ground the space entirely.”

Throughout the room, and especially in filling the bookshelves, Curtis sought to introduce balance without veering into an overly symmetrical look. Opposite shelves of the built-ins equally weigh a collection of framed artwork, sculptures, and vessels. The collection repeatedly summons the

human form to “provoke a little bit more emotion or thought, even on a subconscious level, because it’s a reflection of us in some way,” she notes.

For Curtis, true elegance is in the nuance. “[Styling is] not a detail; it’s a major element,” she says. Its importance is on display in the oversize pendants hanging from the ceiling, capped with a small marble ball; the structural side tables with open edges that simulate a current; and the subtlety of the mixed metal tones throughout.

“You don’t often see that level of simplicity that Ashley really gravitates to, so I think that it’s much more unique and much more pared back,” Curtis says of the details. “It’s really a less-is-more concept, so that every piece becomes so much more intentional.”

It all comes together to create the “spacious, airy, and open” living room that embodies Curtis’s signature approach, landing with ease in that precarious space between too much and not enough. The same monochromatic, elegant simplicity is mirrored throughout the home with no bad angles. ■

This luxurious living room delivers the best of both worlds: with sophisticated visuals and family-friendly features. Designated areas for adults and kids highlight the classic Victorian backdrop and modern design that create the perfect balance.

the great divide.

A WELL-APPOINTED LIVING ROOM
WITH BUILT-IN FLEXIBILITY

Even with the classic architecture and prime location of this Victorian home in Westmount—an upscale neighborhood in Montreal, Quebec near Victoria Village that’s filled with locally owned restaurants and shops—there was still some work to be done. Positioned on a hill leading toward Mount Royal, the semidetached residence with lots of character sits on a slope in the picturesque setting. Sun Ah Brock, founder and owner of Montreal-based LUX decor, alongside her design team, took on the task of modernizing the interiors and making them more livable for her clients. “They wanted to highlight and supplement the original bones of the house,” says Brock. “That being said, we weren’t afraid to go bold with the choices and mix up the styles to suit a young family.”

In addition to her design firm, Brock has an online store and an affiliate program for industry professionals across North America. Adding new finds to a few existing pieces gave the home that turnkey look for the owners, a couple with two children who often host friends. “They are foodies, so they definitely love to cook and entertain,” says Brock. “They wanted a house in which they could comfortably entertain a few couples at a time, while incorporating a young family and some kid zones throughout the home.”

The inspiration for the living room came from the warmth and organic feel of the New York City locations of 1 Hotel. The owners wanted it to be cozy and kid friendly with super easy care, which comes from performance fabrics and forgiving surfaces. “They also wanted space to grow their collection of travel souvenirs,” she says.

An eclectic look lets them blend the old with the new. “They wanted to highlight the architecture and millwork of the home and modernize it at the same time,” says Brock. “They also wanted to incorporate their

objects from their trips and curiosities on floating shelves, but because they didn’t have a separate living room on the main floor, this served as a play area for the kids as well as a formal living room.”

Some separation made sense. “Because it’s a little bit of a longer living room, we had to section it off and make a kid-friendly zone,” she explains. “Near the fireplace, we wanted to keep it cozy so the whole family could lounge there. What’s great about this living room is that we were able to optimize the space and make it kid friendly, while keeping a space for adults to lounge too.”

Brock describes the color palette as “earthy, moody, and completely on-trend.” “The blue-and-caramel color scheme was a challenging palette, proof that you really need to carry a color throughout a room,” she says, noting that the contrast comes from caramel leather, camel-colored curtains, pairing brass with black, and blue furniture that stands out against the white walls. “All these details contribute to letting the architecture shine, including that beautiful mantel and fireplace.”

WRITTEN BY JEANINE MATLOW / PHOTOGRAPHY BY MTL INTERIORS







A natural palette feels timeless and new with neutral hues and greens and blues. Original architectural features, like the stately staircase and the striking fireplace add character to this multifunctional space that can also accommodate frequent guests.

Standout architectural details include the original fireplace and original brick wall in the entry. The intricate millwork on the staircase begins with the distinctive baluster. The plaster moldings, floors, and ten-foot ceilings are also original to the home and lend a city-inspired vibe.

These architectural features complement the well-curated contents, like the leather accent chairs that bring comfort and old-world charm. The coffee table leans more rustic with an imperfect surface, while the accent tables have a shagreen finish that is perfect for beverages. A pair of boho-chic poufs complement black bookshelves with caning on the doors.

A perfect balance of old and new now feels welcoming. "This home displays the beginning of a trend towards maximalism, because it's not very *épurée* and clean, which is what makes this home unique," says Brock. "We made sure that every wall had an impact; the spaces weren't meant to feel pure and clean, they were meant to feel warm, cozy, and lived-in." ■

clutter control.

The team at LUX decor created an all-in-one living room, family room, and kid zone with storage for collectibles and toys. Here's how she helped these daily spaces look polished.

Hide and Seek. "It was a bit challenging, because the family room was extremely long and one part that was sectioned off was a little smaller," says Brock. "We had to keep it functional for the whole family, while incorporating lots of furniture pieces that were also storage and zones for the kids."

Stow Away. "There weren't many walls we could use, so we had to optimize storage with the furniture," she says. In the kid zone, a storage coffee table that holds toys joins a storage bench for overflow, while floating shelves showcase travel mementoes and other treasures.

Calm Quarters. The couple wanted their home to be a quiet oasis where the family could escape and recharge. Having a place for everything and everything in its place lets them relax and enjoy.





A STUNNING MODERN BEACH HOUSE

Beauty by the Beach

FIT FOR ENTERTAINING & RELAXING

WRITTEN BY BLAKE MILLER / PHOTOGRAPHY BY VANESSA LENTINE

A series of thin, light-colored vertical lines of varying lengths and slight curves, creating a textured, organic border on the left side of the page.

When designer Mindy Gayer was first approached by her client to renovate her Corona del Mar, California home, she knew there was so much to work with. “When we first saw the living room, we knew the bones of this space had so much potential to be expanded upon,” says Gayer. The home was a classic 1990s Eastern seaboard home, and while it had great bones, “it lacked a lot of character,” she says. “It had a really unique floor plan that allowed us to take the traditional architectural style of the home and bring it to life by adding more details and leaning into those traditional elements and tying it to the inside. The charming outside just didn’t match the inside.”

So what began as a cosmetic update quickly transformed into a whole-home renovation. While the home was not an eyesore, the all-white interiors felt flat and the choppiness of the floor plan wasn’t conducive to the open, airy aesthetic the homeowner wanted. Four divided spaces made up the living areas of the home and, though the house had plenty of natural light, it made the home feel inherently dark. “My client wanted the footprint to feel more open and inviting versus segregated and closed off,” says Gayer, who worked with Pete Black Construction. “It’s not a super wide home, so having those spaces divided and closed off made it feel awkward when you walked in.”

Gayer tore down the dividing walls, opened up the four spaces into one large room, and added large oak beams, which instantly added character and contrast to the otherwise all-white palette. Dark floors were replaced with wide-plank engineered oak stained in a whitewash hue, walls were painted a soft white, and the built-ins were clad in a sleek white-oak shiplap. The one-time drab fireplace was transformed into a stunning focal point with a new Calacatta marble slab surround that makes the room feel modern and fresh. Gayer then layered the space with warm wood tones, textured fabrics and patterns, and an oversize vintage kilim rug that adds a slight pop of cheerful color.

Designer Mindy Gayer was tasked with transforming her client’s circa-1990s home, which included removing several interior walls to open the choppy floor plan. She then updated spaces such as the living room with a neutral color palette and layered varying textures for interest.







OPPOSITE: Because the homeowner loves pink, Gayer wanted to infuse spaces with subtle doses of the color, seen here in the primary bedroom bedding. **THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Organic wood and leather accents, such as this pair of chairs and ottomans, balance the neutral color palette. In the primary bathroom, soft-pink hues and light marble create a delicate aesthetic. Gayer updated the living room with custom built-in shelves, which were clad in a sleek, white-oak shiplap. No space was untouched including the rooftop, which was transformed into a sanctuary for entertaining and relaxing.







“The home is full of beautiful and thoughtful details from top to bottom,” says Gayer. “It’s transitional, timeless, and undoubtedly feminine. A cohesive neutral palette throughout the home makes such a tranquil and serene environment, and subtle pops of pink make it feel uniquely personalized to our client.” Organic wood finishes coupled with white-marble accents and textured fabrics with aged-brass detail resulted in a harmonious and ultimately relaxing getaway for the homeowner. “She told us from the beginning she loves feminine things, so we really went for those soft-pink hues, light marble, and aged brass to bring her vision to fruition,” says Gayer.

On the front facade, the exterior was stripped down to the framing and replaced with a new Dutch door as well as new siding and new windows for a complete exterior uplift. “From there, we completely reimagined the hardscape and landscape plan,” explains Gayer. “We added a bifold door system to create more of the indoor-outdoor feel our client wanted. Mature olive trees were brought in, and roses were added to grow and soften the exterior over time. A custom brick fire pit with laid-back lounge seating area is the perfect spot to catch sunny rays and ocean views all year round.”

“She really leaned into us to guide her on this remodel,” adds Gayer. “And we took that very seriously. This project was an opportunity to start fresh in terms of design and create this special sanctuary for our client.” Now that the extensive renovation is complete, the homeowner is thrilled with the end result. “It’s a very approachable and appealing home and she loves how it feels,” says Gayer. “There’s more of a timeless element to the design, which is always the goal if we’re remodeling. There are challenges to that sometimes. But the updates we were able to make really made it more livable and aesthetically more current and fun.” ■

THIS PAGE: Subtle accents, such as aged brass, marble, and wood, warm an otherwise all-white kitchen. **OPPOSITE:** White oak was added throughout, including as a backdrop in the dining area. Vertical shiplap ties in with the adjacent custom shelves for a cohesive look.

THE OUTDOOR UPLIFT

The exterior wasn’t left out of this renovation either. Mindy Gayer teamed up with landscape designer Karen D. Miller to design a comfortable and captivating lounge space in the backyard and entertaining area on the rooftop. “We designed these spaces to complement the surrounding coastal environment, opting for light woods, grayish-green hues, and neutral anchor pieces,” explains Gayer. “For the lounge areas, our client decided she was okay with bringing the exterior pillows inside when she wasn’t using them, so we opted for half-performance fabrics and half-linen fabrics for more variety in pattern and texture. All of the details come together to create the most dreamy exterior.”





scenery & experiences worth savoring

HUDSON RIVER VALLEY, NEW YORK

WRITTEN BY HEIDI SIEFKAS

New York's Hudson River Valley is the Empire State's gem escape. With the Hudson River etching through the ten-county region from Westchester County to Albany, the Valley not only inspires with its natural beauty, but also its bounties. From the Catskill Mountains and Shawangunk Mountain Ridge to vineyards and sustainable farms, this is the place to savor your time in the outdoors as well as a farm-to-table meal paired with your choice of local wine, craft brews, and/or cider. Discover why others have chosen to vacation in the Hudson River Valley and why you should too!





OPENING SPREAD: Brilliant fall colors along the Hudson River Valley in Upstate New York. THESE PAGES, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Get away from it all and explore the area's tranquil lakes and trails. The FDR Bridge spanning the Hudson River from Poughkeepsie to Highland, New York. The Vanderbilt Mansion, a National Historic Site and a must-see in Hyde Park. A hand-painted sign highlighting the grandeur of the Hudson River from Manhattan to Albany.

travel tips

How to Get There:

Plane: Fly in to Hudson Valley Regional Airport (KPOU) or Albany International Airport (ALB)

Train: Two- to three-hour train ride from New York City

Automobile: Two-hour drive from New York City

When to Go:

Summer months are popular with mild temperatures in the 70s and 80s F. Shoulder season (September and October) brings fewer crowds and a chance at seeing the fall color change.

Must-Sees:

Vanderbilt Mansion
Franklin D. Roosevelt Historic Site
Mohonk Mountain House
Culinary Institute of America (CIA)
Walkway Over the Hudson
State Historic Park
Stone Barns Center

Local Libations:

Millbrook Vineyards: Cabernet Franc, Chardonnay, and Pinot Noir
Plan Bee Farm Brewery:
Seasonal field-to-glass brews
Kings Highway Cider Shack: Seasonal ciders to write home about

Explore the Natural Beauties.

Whether you enjoy hiking, bicycling, or watersports, the Hudson River Valley area has experiences for all ages and abilities. Head to Minnewaska State Park Preserve for scenic hikes or bike rides on the Shawangunk Mountain Ridge. Nicknamed “The Gunks” by locals, this is where visitors can witness waterfalls, lakes, hardwood forests, and sheer cliffs with spectacular views along nearly fifty miles of footpaths and thirty-five miles of carriage roads. Another beautiful walk or bike ride is the Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park. Stroll or ride across this rail-to-trail bridge from Poughkeepsie to Highland. Take in the sights from the walkway, including the FDR Mid-Hudson Bridge and the Culinary Institute of America (CIA). No trip to the Hudson River Valley would be complete without an experience on the river for which it's named. Try a kayak daytrip or a relaxing cruise out of Kingston.

For history buffs, a drive to Hyde Park to tour the Franklin D. Roosevelt Historic Site and the Vanderbilt Mansion is just the ticket. It's no secret that many of the historically wealthy have vacationed in Hudson River Valley to recharge their batteries. Because of this, there is a strong health and wellness focus, including the world-renowned Omega Institute for Holistic Studies located outside Rhinebeck.

Indulge in the Bounties.

To complement outdoor adventures, replenish with locally made products via farms, wineries, and restaurants. A tasty stop is the

Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture and Blue Hill at Stone Barns located on eighty acres of a former Rockefeller Estate in Pocantico Hills. Not only is Stone Barns a sustainable farm and not-for-profit educational center, but also a place where all can sample the fruits of the farm's labor in the Blue Hill cafeteria.

For those wanting to experiment with delicacies from the crème de la crème of cooking schools, navigate to the Culinary Institute of America (CIA) campus with a reservation in one of its four restaurants.

The Hudson River Valley is a wine lover's destination; so take the opportunity to swirl, sniff, and sip. A favorite multistop wine experience is the Dutchess Wine Trail, which includes three award-winning wineries: Clinton Vineyards, Milea Estate Vineyard, and Millbrook Vineyards & Winery.

If craft brews or ciders are more your fancy, there is an array to pick from. Plan Bee Farm Brewery in Poughkeepsie is a true field-to-glass brewery. The brewers source 100 percent of all ingredients from New York, many of which come from the farm itself. For cider, Kings Highway Cider Shack at McEnroe Organic Farm in Millerton is a local hotspot. Enjoy seasonal ciders as well as burgers, lobster rolls, and other delish delights.

With the natural beauty and tasty bounties of the Hudson River Valley, a trip to Upstate New York is calling you. Whether you fancy history, outdoor adventures, culinary stops, wine tastings, craft brews, or a combination of it all, Hudson River Valley has you covered. Take the time to escape, recharge, and indulge in the Hudson River Valley. ■



resources

2022

20 Familial Charm

Jamie Keskin Design
New England
www.jamiekeskindesign.com

24 Openly Bold

Lace & Grace Interiors
Phoenix Area, Arizona
www.laceandgraceinteriors.com

28 No Bad Angles

Urbanology Designs
Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas
www.urbanologydesigns.com

32 The Great Divide

LUX decor
Montreal, Quebec
www.lux-decor.com

36 Beauty by the Beach

Mindy Gayer Design Co.
Southern California
www.mindygayer.com



get smart

SMART-HOME DEVICES

Technology changes so quickly, and it can be tough to keep up. As soon as you think you've learned about the latest and greatest, something revolutionary hits the market and you're behind the times. Thankfully, these modern advances make it easy to live well. Plenty of new construction is outfitted with techy, smart-home features designed for flexibility in how you live, work, and travel too. But you don't have to have a tech-centric home to reap the benefits of smart features. Here are some simple ways to retrofit your home and boost its IQ today.

Smart plugs are an investment that doesn't require too much research. Plug one into an existing grounded outlet, plug in a lamp or appliance, and then wield the power to control it from a smartphone app. Control anything in a smart plug, even when you are away from home. Smart bulbs give you similar access; hue light bulbs enhance the

sensory experience with your home lighting and—especially helpful during dark mornings—can be programmed to mimic a sunrise.

Make your interiors more comfortable during seasonal changes with a smart thermostat. Save some money on your electric bill and always come home to a comfortable space by controlling your home's temperature from afar, based on the weather or your schedule for the day. If your schedule includes a trip to the grocery store, check in with a smart refrigerator before leaving the house. The appliance's touch screen can help keep a grocery list and act as a communication hub for your household. But if you forget to stop by the fridge, don't fret. An app will let you view refrigerator contents from anywhere, even a grocery store aisle. 

top-notch

TIPS FOR STYLING A MANTEL

Traditionally, a fireplace is the focal point of a living room. But with the advent of modern heating and air, many fireplaces went by the wayside or were removed in lieu of being repaired. Even if you don't have (or need) a fireplace to heat your home, the visual focal point of a mantel can be a comforting anchor for artwork, display pieces, and seasonal decor.

Don't have an existing mantel? There are plenty of quick and easy ways to add one. Build your own, install an oversize floating shelf, or source an antique mantelpiece that can lend character to a new build.

Once you have the foundation, the pretty part begins; however, mantels offer plenty of styling flexibility, which can make the project feel daunting. Finding the right balance can be an art form. If the options are overwhelming, keep it simple with a large mirror or a piece of art that draws the eye toward the ceiling. Desire a more layered look? Start with an anchor piece such as art, a wreath, or a mirror. Next, add decor with visual weight such as a vase or set of candlesticks and taper candles. Finally, fill in with smaller accent pieces such as greenery. (If the mantel is above a regularly used fireplace, consider faux greenery that won't be affected by heat or dry air.)

Mirrors reflect light and can look especially enchanting paired with natural wick or battery-operated candles. Go for the romantic look all year round or play it up during the darker fall and winter months with additional twinkle lights and garlands. Now is the perfect time to start dreaming about rotating decor for upcoming holidays that will make your everyday living space feel extra special. 

