

Lakeshore Living

IDEAS AND INSPIRATION FOR YOUR MADISON AREA HOME

A Contemporary Collaboration
An Architect and Interior Design Enthusiast Create their Dream Home

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Taking Home Some Tips

We moved into our home about a year ago. What was exciting was that it offered a fresh slate to reimagine the interior the way we wanted it to look. So we undertook the painstaking work of painting the oak trim white throughout the entire home, repainting all of the walls, adding kitchen hardware, replacing flooring and carpet, swapping out light fixtures, landscaping . . . and a whole lot more. It's been a lot of work, but we're so proud to call this place home now.

Being at the helm of Lakeshore Living has offered me so much inspiration for how a home can push the design boundaries. I've gleaned many ideas from the gorgeously-appointed houses I've been lucky enough to walk through. Our marble countertop in our guest bathroom, our (hopefully, in the future) patterned tile kitchen island and throw rugs galore are all design tips I've pulled from the homes I've seen that have successfully employed these tricks to make their spaces look beautiful and pulled together. It's never too late to make your own design tweaks on a small or large budget, too!

I'm in love with this edition. We have so many useful takeaways about home design and style that I can't wait for you to read it cover to cover. Take Katie Vaughn's piece on six easy steps to properly selecting, hanging and displaying your wall art. It seems like it's a simple task—until you realize there's a lot more that goes into it than you think. Read about it on page 28. And Deanna Kane explores two interesting topics for us in The Workbook and our Technology departments: what's trending in kitchens right now, and great smartphone apps to help you design your home. Check them out on pages 30 and 34, respectively.

And of course, we bring you another full slate of stunning homes, including a historic Maple Bluff residence, a contemporary Lake Mendota abode and our cover story, a design collaboration on Lake Monona that is awe-inspiring.

Thank you for reading! If there's ever a topic you're interested in seeing in our pages, don't hesitate to drop me a note. And if you or someone you know has a home that would be great to feature within our pages, please email me at Shayna@ntmediagroup.com.

Enjoy the lake!

Shayna Mace, Editorial Director

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For the Host With the Most

Got a gathering to attend?
Be the favorite guest and gift your party
host one of these special, useful pieces.

Styling and photography by Shanna Wolf



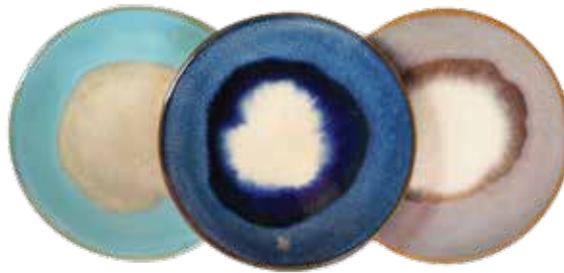
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← NUTKRACK has a shop on Atwood Avenue!



→ Grove 45 is based in Napa, California, and uses olive trees that the owner imported from Italy in 1994.



Thank-You Thrillers Go from “well that’s nice” to “wow!” with these anything-but-standard host trinkets. (Clockwise from top left): Tillandsia Xerographica air plant, \$25, Red Square Flowers; NUTKRACK caramelized pecans, \$8-\$26, NUTKRACK; Menu salt and pepper mill set, \$70, The Century House; Bee Raw Cheesemonger’s honey flight, \$50, Fromagination; Swedish Dream seaweed soap (set of 2), \$16, The Century House; Glazed coasters, \$10 each, Patio Pleasures; Grove 45 Olive Oil, \$50, Fromagination; and Madison lakes mugs, \$15 each, Zip-Dang.

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— SHOP THE LOOK —



Lands Downunder Herringbone Throw in Lilac, \$128, landsdownunder.com



Jana Bek Design Lilac Brushstroke Lamp, \$525, janabek.com



Biscuit Home Pique Sham in Chartreuse, \$135, biscuit-home.com

Color Crush: Lilac and Green



The color purple is on trend and popping up in interiors everywhere. It's one of those colors that can be hard to commit to but if it's used well, it can create a sophisticated space. Designers Rosemary Wormley and Meredith Present of Ash Street Interiors designed this darling girl's room, above. "Lilac was an obvious choice when our client told us it was her favorite color! Pairing it with a punchy green created a beautifully balanced combination," says Present. This color combination is fresh and fun, yet still elegant. I can't wait to use it in my own interior projects. —Alexandra Wood, Owner of Alexandra Wood Design

HUE CUES

It can be tough to find the right shade of purple, but when you do, it's magic. Here are two winners.



Spring Lilac, Benjamin Moore (1388) This shade of lavender is very sophisticated and remains timeless. There are no hints of blue or gray and it pairs well with many accent colors.



Dreamy Cloud, Benjamin Moore (2117-70) This soft and subtle color is closer to being an off-white, but with a perfect hint of purple. An ideal choice if you don't want to commit to a full-on purple wall.

PATTERN PLAY

Don't be afraid to mix and match textiles in this fun color combo. (All prices below are upon request.)



Left to right:

- China Seas Double Cross in Jungle Green, quadrillefabrics.com
- Romo Zahira in Mauve, romo.com
- F. Schumacher Acanthus Stripe in Leaf, fschumacher.com
- F. Schumacher Haruki Sisal in Lavender, fschumacher.com
- F. Schumacher Poms in Lilac, fschumacher.com



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Fresh for Fall

Your must-have
list of the
coolest,
chicest finds
for the season.

Styling and text by
Shayna Mace

Photography by
Shanna Wolf

Call of the Wild

Animal prints are where it's at this autumn. Go bold in a faux fur cheetah jacket that'll inject some attitude into your look—and certainly get noticed.

Line Joan vintage coat in Bengal, \$345, Line Maggie crewneck in mulberry, \$295, Citizens of Humanity Rocket jeans in All Black, \$208, Jerome Dreyfuss Bob cross-body handbag, \$465, Tess & Tricia Ciara chain necklace, \$102, Chan Luu pyrite layering necklace, \$150, AV Max gold link layering necklace, \$68, and rag & bone Walker boot, \$475, all from **Twigs**.



Tartan Treat

Go mad for plaid in this stunning topper that you'll reach for in seasons to come, too. Smythe black tartan blazer, \$795, Twigs.



BEAUTIFUL BOTANICALS

Florals carry into fall in dark, moody versions. Cap Juluca by Aldomartins floral shirt, \$169, Terese Zache.



HUE KNEW
Rich jewel tone shades rule right now. Elliott Lauren mustard crew-neck sweater, \$174, Terese Zache.



PERFECT PANTS

These menswear-inspired pants have a feminine, flattering cut. Elliott Lauren glen plaid trousers, \$162, Terese Zache.

DREAM DENIM

A high-waist and straight-leg silhouette is a fashionable departure from an uber-skinny pair. Citizens of Humanity Olivia exposed fly high-rise slim ankle in Circa, \$228, Twigs.



TEXTURE TEASE

It's all about interesting textures—like in this soft, cozy sweater. Staccato chunky crewneck, \$49, Mainstream Boutique.



IDEAL ACCENT

Pearls take an artsy turn in these too-cool dangles. Earrings, \$129, Terese Zache.



PRETTY PRINT

Graphic patterns like this celestial one are a stylish notch above ordinary. knotsisters solar blouse, \$119, Luceo.



WRIST CANDY

Minimalist jewelry has never made such a statement. Gold bangle, \$160, Luceo and silver bangle, \$94, Terese Zache.

Cult Classic

Stripes are cool all of the time—but this fall's looks are especially on-point. rag poets Palma indigo striped button down, \$64, Luceo.



Meet the Maker



It Makes Scents

The heavenly smell of soothing lavender and uplifting lemongrass waft from Tara Parish's quaint Middleton farmers' market booth on a sunny Tuesday afternoon. Shoppers unfamiliar with her products probably stop first for the smells—but quickly realize that Parish's Shade Tree Naturals line is worth the pause. Her handcrafted soaps, hand and lip balms are 100 percent all natural, and Parish will gladly fill you in on every ingredient in her wares. It's her life.

When Parish had her first son eight years ago, she started buying baby body-care products but was disheartened to find that many weren't as all-natural as they seemed. "So that spurred my research and not wanting to use those products on him. And that's when I started my business," says Parish.

She started reading about essential oils, soap-making and where companies source products from. "If I was going to make natural products, I wanted to know every single ingredient that was in something I was using and what I was putting on mine and my family's bodies. I had also had multiple pregnancy losses and there were no answers from anybody on what was happening, and this was a big time for me to switch how I did everything."

Parish taught herself how to make lip and hand balms online. She took a soap-making class in northern Wisconsin. She then tweaked all of her recipes to craft her own exclusive formulas. Parish sources all of her own ingredients and asks her wholesalers for Material Data Safety Sheets or proof of sustainability for their products. "And anything I can get locally, I do. If I put coffee in my soap, I use a fair-trade local roaster, or beeswax from a local farm," she explains.

This fall she'll introduce seasonal scents like orange clove, pumpkin chai, peppermint and vanilla honey in addition to her year-round scents of lavender lemongrass, eucalyptus spearmint and more.



"I want to focus mostly on women and children and them making healthy choices for their families," says Parish. "I want to be a business people can trust and as close to nature as possible."

This fall look for her at the Middleton Farmers' Market (through October), the Makers Market Sun Prairie (Oct. 7), Dane Handmade (Nov. 14) and the Madison Makers Fall Market & Pub Crawl (Nov. 23). shadetreenaturals.com

Shoppist



Everyday Eclecticism

When Coni Marotz was the vice president of the rug division for Madison-based Sergenian's Floor Coverings, she started doing interior design on the side for friends and clients. She quickly noticed that people kept telling her the same thing: they felt the area was lacking in unique home furnishings stores. They were all either cookie-cutter or big-box stores.

"I had always been a person who liked to find unique, one-of-a-kind things, and had a lot of sources of places I would go. I just thought, 'I need to have my own store.' I was also at a point where I'd run businesses for other people, and I never did for myself, and I felt it was time to try," says Marotz.

In 2008 Marotz opened Iconi Interiors on West Washington Avenue, showcasing new, vintage and reupholstered furnishings she and her husband redid themselves. She also sourced retro barware, jewelry, small décor items, lighting and more antique vendors and other vintage markets. The inviting shop was merchandised like a cool lounge.

In 2014, Marotz signed a lease for another space next door, so her shops were (and still are) conveniently located side by side. The second gorgeously-outfitted space has brand-new custom furnishings (from a Virginia-based company), bespoke lampshades, new and vintage lighting, décor pieces, small gift items and of course, rugs. Marotz's original shop space shifted focus to consign high-end furniture pieces from customers. She also offers interior design services for clients, too.

"People remark that they've never been in a store like this, where it's a mix and it's put together in an eclectic manner," says Marotz. "From the kind of light bulbs we use in the spotlights to the music we play to the diverse amount of furniture and [various] price points—we're different than most furniture stores. It's more of an experience here."

Iconi Interiors, 534 & 540 W. Washington Ave., 608-663-9926, iconiinteriors.com

Bottom left: Cyndi De Vries Top left: Shade Tree Naturals



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Ten Minutes With RYAN HUBER

The Kenosha native shares how he upped Madison's style game.

By Shayna Mace

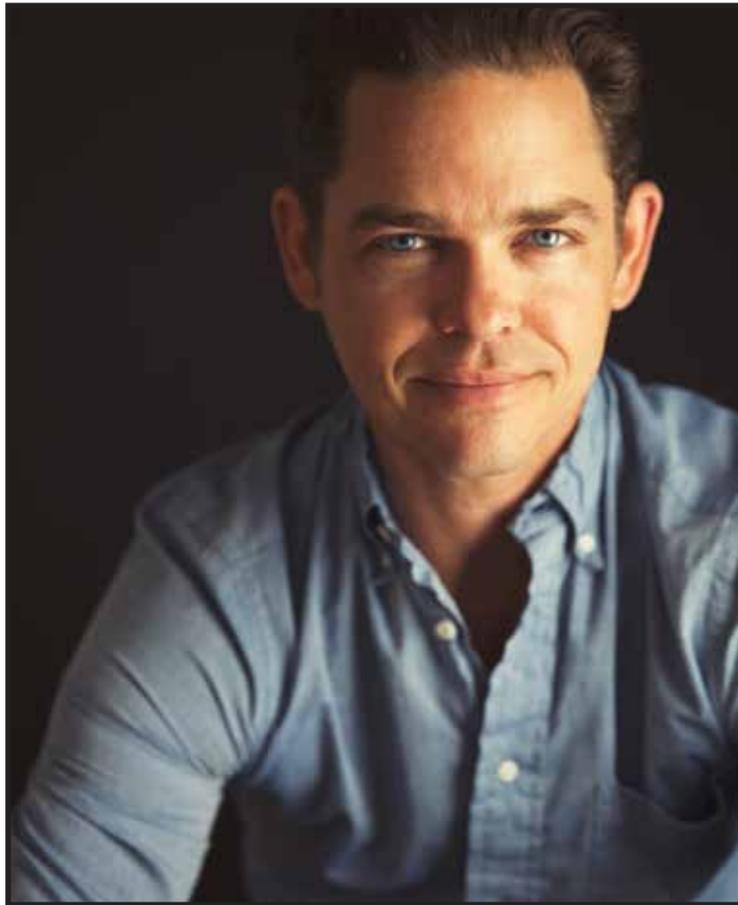
Your shop Context on King Street has been open for 13 years. How did you get into the retail business?

I worked with [my business partner] Sam Parker at The Great Dane. He and I would sit down quite often and talk about different business ideas. It was pretty obvious that he and I both had the drive and the desire to go into business on our own. We felt like there were a couple ideas that were missing [in Madison], and one we were thinking about [was a] denim shop. I would spend a lot of time visiting friends in New York ... and find vintage stores and a couple stores selling new denim made the old-school way, and I got really into it. So we got ourselves really acquainted with the history of denim, and then we went out and found brands that were kind of scattered all over the globe.

The idea from the get-go was to curate a bunch of brands that were really hard to get that were coveted by the online community. As soon as I saw [this] store space, the wheels started turning quickly. I could envision the store layout, and it was the perfect size.

I think a lot of people here aren't aware of how cutting-edge Context was in scouting little-known, premium denim brands and heritage brands not only in the Madison market, but worldwide.

When we opened it was almost strictly denim—we had 25 denim brands in the first couple years, because that was just exploding at that moment. We came into our own about three years after



we opened ... we went out and got brands like Engineered Garments, Double RL and brands that were really exclusive. They would only be [carried in] a couple stores in Japan, New York or L.A. So we had to convince some of these brands. Then when we got them all under our roof and that's when GQ, Esquire and Monocle started featuring us, because there was no store like ours anywhere in the U.S. That's the truth.

Now that these brands are easier to find and more retailers (and the brands themselves) are online, you've evolved your business model.

Along the way we'd do

collaborations with our brands. We basically would design something and have a company make it for us, and it was always our biggest success. So now we're doing more of that—we don't really carry full collections anymore because people shop differently now. We do really well with Wisconsin-made products because [the brands] are easy to work with and they're really high quality. So Thorogood boots are our best-selling product right now, and they're great to work with and they make the best boots. They've been making them since 1892 in the same city. That tells you quite a bit about the integrity of that company. 🍷



We collaborated on a work boot with Thorogood that's made out of a specific leather from Horween Tannery called Plainsman. It's called the 113 Boot, because our address is 113 King Street.



We have a First Settlement Goods belt and wallet to match our boot. It's good to have the trio. Guys will buy the boot, belt and wallet because it all matches.

The Eau Claire Bears were a farm team based in Eau Claire. We worked with Ebbets Field Flannels to make some throwback hats. They're all made in the U.S.



I'm definitely not someone who's going to fall victim to a trend, but I certainly don't ignore them. I'm not afraid to try something new. Fit is the biggest thing—if something fits you properly, you can pull off so much because you'll feel comfortable.



I like to go to Players Sports Bar & Grill a lot—it's my favorite tavern in Madison. Mary and Laura are the best bartenders in the city.



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Perfect Pairings

Matching up food and your drink of choice, whether it's wine, beer or spirits, can be a fun and educational way to savor what you're serving to guests. Here's the lowdown on how to do it best.

By Kristine Hansen



Food and drink pairings can feel intimidating. Will you accidentally ruin the taste of the food you've labored over in the kitchen? What if the special wine you picked out doesn't sing ... and tastes terrible instead?

"You can be very playful," advises Shannon Berry, cheesemonger at Fromagination in Madison, who spent her childhood on a lake near Rhinelander in Northern Wisconsin. After cooking at restaurants in New York City and Portland, Oregon, she returned to Wisconsin, in part because she missed lakeside living.

Your goal should be to bring out flavors you like in each of the beverages and food items, "two like parts of two different things," says Berry. "You don't want [the food and drink] to fight each other." For example, scotch and aged goat cheese both feature bright, grassy notes.

Also consider textures. Does the beverage have a dry finish or is it sweet? Is the mouth-feel heavy or light? Keep like with like and you can't go wrong. "With a wine that is very buttery and silky, you want to match it with a cheese that has that same texture," advises Amy Wulz, wine educator at Drumlin Ridge Winery

in Waunakee who teaches wine classes at the winery as well as at Madison College. Another example: delicate cheeses with delicate wines, like a goat cheese with Chenin Blanc. Not sure if the wine is delicate or not? Look at the alcohol content. Above 12 percent typically means this is an intense wine.

Also, don't be shy about opting for fall-friendly selections. "People are transitioning from all

STAY LOCAL

When in doubt, drink and eat items from the same geographic region. This is a tip Wulz gives in her wine-education classes. "If the people in Spain have been eating Manchego and drinking it with a Garnacha, that's a good match," she says. Along those lines, she says, try Drumlin Ridge Wauna Red Wine Blend (70 percent Cabernet Sauvignon, 20 percent Syrah and 10 percent Zinfandel, featuring Lodi AVA and San Luis Obispo-grown grapes and a "very lush and velvety profile") with a five-year-aged Wisconsin cheddar.

these cool, crisp whites (wines) from summer," says Wulz. Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc can easily be replaced with Beaujolais and Pinot Noir.

WINNING WINES

Autumn is the perfect time to uncork fruit-forward reds. Berry recommends the fruitiness of a California Zinfandel wine with English Stilton cheese to complement its spicy finish. This is also when spice-rubbed cheeses are fitting, such as Roth's Gran Queso. "The rind is rubbed with paprika and cinnamon," says Berry, who would pair this with a spicy Zinfandel.

Bleu Mont Dairy in Dodgeville makes an award-winning Bandaged Cheddar Berry never hesitates to recommend to customers. "It would go great with a Cabernet Sauvignon or Barbaresco (Piedmont, Italy) or even a Glogg (hot spiced wine punch). It can hold up to any of those," she says.

For Thanksgiving and other fall-season meals, Phil Bilodeau—owner and co-founder of Thief Wine in Milwaukee and Shorewood—can't get enough of a dry style of Rosé. Apparently neither can his customers: "I'm selling more in September, October and November than I used to," he says.

Bilodeau also discourages only drinking reds once the outdoor temperature cools. The key is to look for wines without an oaky presence on the palate. "Albariño from Spain is really an underrated food wine," he says, as is unoaked Chablis (France). But if you want to drink red during the fall, consider Cabernet Franc (mineral with floral and raspberry notes), fruity Beaujolais from France and Nero d'Avola from Sicily, Italy. And don't forget about Pinot Noir. "You can get great [Pinot Noir] from Burgundy, France; New Zealand; and California," he says, noting they are "crowd pleasers and low in tannins."

BEST FOR BEER

Chef Ryne Harwick of Hunt Club Steakhouse in Lake Geneva thinks fall is the easiest season for pairings. "[In the kitchen] I really like to work more with winter spices, like juniper and cinnamon," he says. "A lot of the heavier beers are more in season that time of year. We're really moving away from the bright, citrus-y flavored beers."

One of Harwick's favorite pairings is roasted butternut squash with a dark beer. "It's going to have the same body in the mouth feel," he says. Earthy tones in carrots and beets, too,

are ideal while sipping heavy beers, like lagers or porters.

A pairing with local roots that Berry highly recommends is any Oktoberfest craft beer from Wisconsin with Roth's Monroe cheese, a double cream, washed-rind variety.

CONSIDERING SPIRITS AND DESSERT WINES

You might think ordering an Old Fashioned, which was invented in Wisconsin—and is a staple on every bar and restaurant menu, from college-area dive bars to swank supper clubs, is trite—but maybe not?

An Old Fashioned's cinnamon and orange flavors are often reflected in autumn cuisine, says Harwick.

What can be really fun when mapping out a meal is pairing dessert (your cheese course, perhaps?) with a drink, giving it the same consideration as you did the appetizer or main entrée. "If you're searing a really pungent, creamy cheese or a really heavy blue, you should go with a dessert wine or late-harvest wine," says Wulz. Dry, nutty wines with caramel notes like Sherry and Madeira also go well with most desserts. 🍷

WISCO AUTUMNAL BEERS TO TRY

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Capital Brewery Oktoberfest, Madison

Central Waters Brewing Co.
Oktoberfest Lager, Amherst

Door County Brewing Co. L'automne,
Baileys Harbor

Lakefront Brewery Pumpkin Imperial Ale,
Milwaukee

New Glarus Brewing Staghorn
Oktoberfest, New Glarus

Stevens Point Brewery Point
Oktoberfest, Stevens Point

Tyrannena Painted Ladies Pumpkin
Spice Ale, Lake Mills

Kristine Hansen is a freelance writer who calls Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood home.

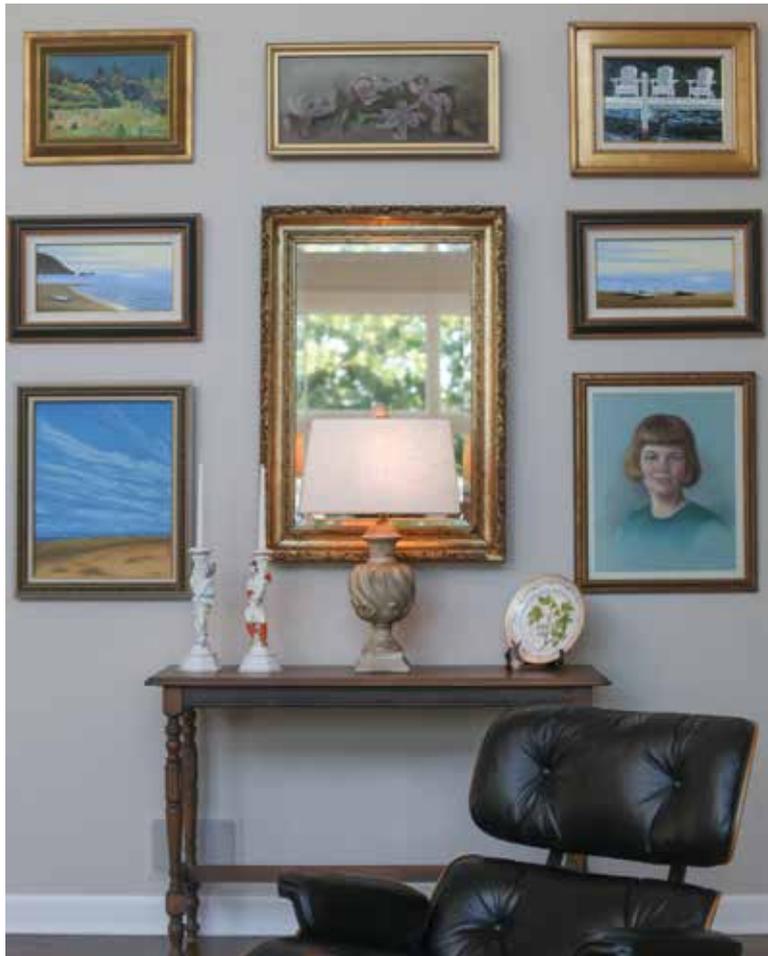


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Hang Time

A beautiful home isn't complete without some show-stopping art. But finding a masterpiece and displaying it properly can be intimidating. Not to worry.

Here's how to go from "Oh, I love this piece" to "Ahh, it looks perfect right there" in six simple steps.

By Katie Vaughn

START WITH THE ART

Let's be clear: There's no such thing as "right" or "good" art—just art that speaks to you. If you're choosing new art, start by getting a feel for what you like. When a work catches your eye, try to determine why. Is it the colors, the subject matter or the mood? A sense of calmness or an exciting dynamism? And is it a portrait, landscape, still life or abstract work? These can all be clues to identifying your aesthetic.

When it's time to shop, keep both your stylistic preferences and practical needs in mind, suggests Tory Folliard, director of Tory Folliard Gallery in Milwaukee.

"Once I have a better idea of their taste, the size and a general idea of the amount they would like to spend, I am able to provide [clients] with options," he says. "Along the way, there is an education process—providing information about

the artists they are considering and the works themselves."

EXPAND YOUR OPTIONS

Paintings, drawings, prints, photographs and mixed-media works on paper and canvas are all fantastic art options that look wonderful on a wall. But what else might you frame and hang? Pretty pieces of wallpaper or fabric, old maps or mementos and items of clothing with sentimental value could have new life as art.

"All artwork is worthy of conservation framing—a child's artwork, a hard-earned diploma, family photographs, even a signed concert poster," says Gary Milward of Gary's Art & Frame in Middleton.

And perhaps art you already own just needs to be reframed or placed somewhere new to shine.

"Many of my clients have collections of stunning art pieces," says Lisa Mohindroo of Milwaukee-based Mohindroo Interiors, "but their beauty needs to be brought to its fullest by displaying them in ideal locations of the home."

CONSIDER YOUR DÉCOR

Once you've found art you love, how do you make sure it works with the décor in your home?

"Really, the only rule of thumb that I follow is to make sure your art doesn't match your interior," says Barry Avery, owner of Fontaine Home in Madison. "I tell clients that we don't want to be matchy-matchy—we can do better than that."

So if a home is decorated in saturated jewel tones, Avery wouldn't place a similarly hued painting in the space; he'd opt for something lighter for contrast. It's the same with design styles: The magic comes in mixing things up.

"If someone has an extremely modern home, I might have them try a gilded frame with a traditional oil painting," Avery says. "If they've

got a more traditional environment going on, bring that more contemporary piece in."

Ultimately, choosing art you love—not what matches your sofa—makes good financial sense. "Fabrics, styles and color trends come and go," says Folliard, "but hopefully, if they choose wisely, the art will be with them for the long haul."

THINK INSIDE THE BOX

These days, the options for showcasing art are nearly limitless.

"Honestly, it's a personal preference," says Jamie Jorndt, an artist and volunteer at Gallery 223 in Lake Geneva. "Some like a raw canvas, some like works framed. And I've noticed more framing of canvases lately."

The only constant considerations when framing, says Milward, are related to quality and protection. Choose conservation-quality UV-filtering glass, high-quality mats and proper mounting techniques, he says, and never put photographs in direct contact with glass or glue down original art.

As for design, simple, clean looks are on trend, Milward says, pointing to thin floater frames that surround a canvas and large white or neutral mats paired with simple black moulding. For those looking for a jolt of color, Milward suggests Prisma frames. Made from clear Lucite, they can be customized in various colors, patterns, textures and shapes to suit the art they will hold.

SEE THE LIGHT

Think about lighting to ensure your masterpiece is both visible and protected. Talk to your framer or art dealer if a piece will be hung in direct sunlight to make sure it won't suffer from fading or other damage.

But don't leave your art in the dark! "More and more clients are understanding the need for picture lighting," says Avery. Sure, recessed ceiling lights can do the job, but



many homeowners are opting for lights placed above that specially bathe art in soft light. And it's not just traditional brass fixtures anymore—choose from classic lamps to sleek bars in a wide range of finishes.

LEVERAGE YOUR LOCATION

Take stock of your space long before picking up a hammer or drill. "Every room is different—some rooms have high ceilings, others may feature many windows with just a narrow wall space to work with," says Mohindroo. Take a step back and keep scale in mind.

For instance, you may know you want to hang a painting in your dining room, but a work that's on the smaller side would look teeny on an expansive wall. A large-scale canvas, though? Hello, bold statement!

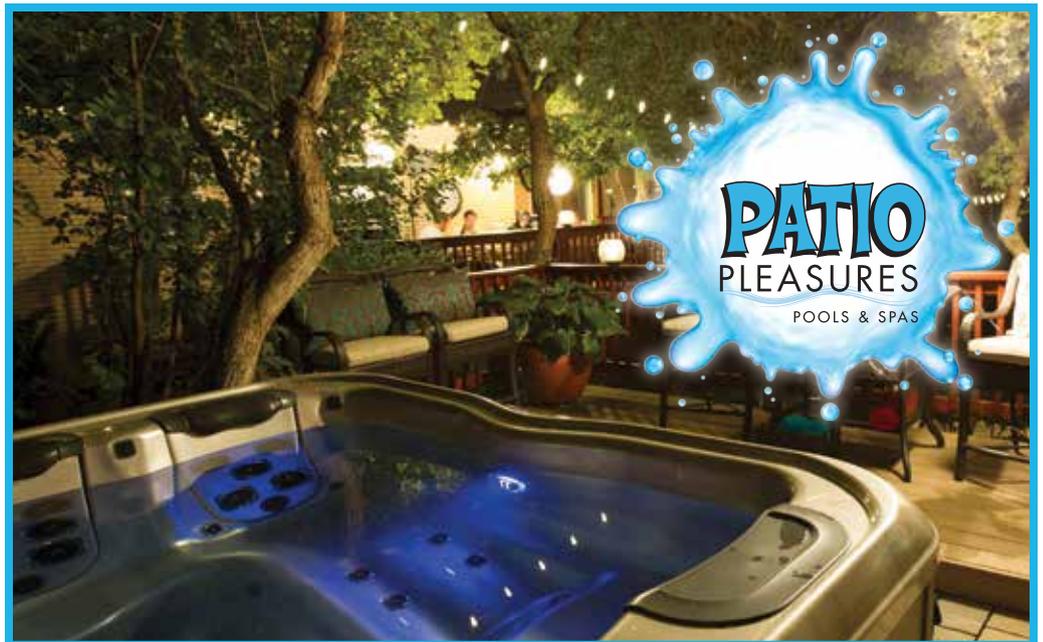
You could also opt for a triptych or a tight grouping of works that reads like a unit, suggests Avery. A single frame style would enhance the cohesiveness. Or maybe a gallery-wall treatment of several different-sized pieces would best fill the space. Go with whatever feels right, suggests Jorndt. "You're basically looking for balance."

A gallery wall looks especially great in long hallways and offices where you might want to feature a variety of artwork. You can go with matching frames and an orderly arrangement for a calmer, tidier feel, or vary materials, colors and sizes for more personality.

And whether your art's hanging with a group or flying solo, think beyond the basics of placement. Kitchens, bathrooms and bookshelves can all be stellar—and eye-catching—spots to have an artistic moment.

"Any space in your home that could use a little livening up should be fair game," says Mohindroo. 🐾

Katie Vaughn is a Madison-based art, travel and features writer.



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Trending in a Kitchen Near You

Classic design elements are complementing the hottest looks in kitchens right now.

By Deanna Kane

Whether you are undergoing a gut rehab or looking to update a few fixtures, keeping your kitchen current means taking a new spin on the classics. As we look into 2019, focus on timeless trends, and creating a home around livability, warmth, comfort and longevity.

If timeless trends seems counterintuitive, there is a reason particular design elements continue to be reinvented. "Trends can be timeless. It's a matter of blending and being consistent with adjacent areas," says Ericka Sprangers, interior designer at the Kohler Design Center.



SUBTLE, STAINED CABINETS

White cabinetry has become the gold standard of a brand-new kitchen.

"White is safe, timeless and classic for any space," says Sprangers.

While white cabinets are too classic to ever go out of style, stained cabinets are the new front-runner to warm up the space and make it more livable.

"Stained cabinets are easy to maintain," says Eileen McGee Wetzel, interior designer with Story Hill Renovations. "You don't notice the wood expanding and contracting, like in painted cabinets. Stained cabinets are also easier to conceal the typical wear-and-tear."

The Classic: White cabinets
The New Take: Stained cabinets



FUNCTIONAL FAUCETS

Similar to kitchen sinks, up-and-coming faucets will have a focus on functionality.

"Consumers want style, but also functional faucets with features," says Sprangers.

"I think we're going to see more semi-professional style faucets instead of the traditional pull-down faucets," says McGee Wetzel. "The semi-professional faucets allow the nozzle to move around without the restraint of the gooseneck."

The Classic: Pull-down faucets
The New Take: Semi-professional faucets

SOLID FOOTING

When choosing a flooring material that will set the stage for your home's overall aesthetic, stick to the classics. "Wood flooring is a lifetime floor," says Jerry Schmidt, sales director with Dream House Dream Kitchens.

"Wood, wood, wood," says McGee Wetzel. "The trend will be wider planks; this creates a higher-end look than the traditional three-inch plank."

The Classic: Wood floors
The New Take: Wide plank floors

GRAY WILL STAY

If you thought gray was on its way out, it continues to reign as the leading paint color. This go-to shade has staying power.

"Gray is not going anywhere but we will see a wider palette, ranging from warmer grays to cooler blue-grays, says McGee Wetzel.

The Classic: Gray
The New Take: Expanded gray palette



PLAYING WITH PATTERN

While the bones of the kitchen will remain timeless, backsplashes are the perfect platform to incorporate pattern, color and different materials.

"Having fun with a pattern is a great way to express your personality. You can easily replace a backsplash in five years when the trend has gone away, but you can't do that with counters and cabinets," says McGee Wetzel.

If you're ready to move beyond subway tile, this is your opportunity. Ceramic tiles will bring pattern into the kitchen and create a bold statement.

"I'm in love with all of the bold ceramic and cement tile patterns I'm seeing," says McGee Wetzel. "They are a great way to add [interest] to a backsplash, whether it's behind the range or all around the kitchen."

Another way to add dimension to your kitchen backsplash is integrating metal into the design.

"Incorporating brushed brass within the tile is a way to make your backsplash stand out," says Schmidt.

The Classic: Subway tile
The New Take: Handmade, ceramic subway tile



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QUARTZ IS QUEEN

Quartz remains the countertop leader in function and style, but expect to see it expand beyond surface level.

“Quartz has so much variety in color and pattern—there’s an option available for everyone,” says McGee Wetzel. “I think we’re also going to see it used more as a backsplash and as waterfall edges to create a clean look.”

Also expect to see other materials incorporated into countertops, such as integrating walnut with quartz as the seating edge of a kitchen island, according to Schmidt.

The Classic: Quartz
The New Take: Quartz expanded beyond the countertops

FINISHING TOUCHES

When it comes to selecting finishes, this is the area to show your flair for the dramatic.

“Matte black will be a finish of choice,” says Sprangers.

“Matte black can be easily paired with any color, stain or finish; it’s a great complement to white counters and cabinets,” says McGee Wetzel.

If you’re looking to keep your finishes more traditional, matte gray with a no-fingerprint finish lends a timeless, beautiful glow to the room.

“Matte gray creates a sophisticated look to elevate your kitchen to a higher level,” says McGee Wetzel.

The Classic: Polished nickel
The New Take: Matte black



ARTFUL APRON FRONTS

Apron sinks remain a leading kitchen sink choice; however, look forward to seeing sleeker variations of this classic. This sink style is moving beyond the farmhouse look, and into more contemporary designs.

“Apron sinks are here to stay, but we’re going to see slimmer versions,” says McGee Wetzel. Kohler’s Strive Vault sink is an apron-front design, in sleek stainless steel. It makes a visual statement, while providing the easy-clean functionality every kitchen needs.

The Classic: Apron sink
The New Take: Streamlined apron sink

Deanna Kane is an interiors, home decor and real estate writer, who also enjoys taking on her own home renovation and design projects.

Top right: Shanna Wolf

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Virtual Design Made Easier

Using your smartphone to help create a perfect, Pinterest-worthy room is only a few taps away.

By Deanna Kane

From space planning to visualizing one-of-a-kind pieces, there are a plethora of apps to help design your home. Creating a dream home can be overwhelming, so use your smartphone to help simplify the experience. These home design apps take the burden out of preparation and selection, so you can enjoy the creative process.

Prep Work

Houzz (iOS, Android; Free)

The Houzz app separates the pros from the amateurs. Houzz is a canvas to begin gathering professional design ideas to ignite your own creative process. View similar spaces to yours, to help visualize your home's potential.

"The best part about Houzz is you don't have to filter out DIY projects; everything is posted by professionals," says Eileen McGee Wetzel, interior designer with Story Hill Renovations.

iHandy Level (iOS, Android; Free)

If your toolbox is scarce, don't skip the most important step of hanging pictures—ensuring they hang level. This straightforward app will turn your phone into a level, resulting in a straight wall of frames.



Photo Measures (iOS, \$6.99; Android, \$4)

There's no need for a tape measure when you download this digital measuring app. Take a photo of any room or item, and the app will show you the exact measurements.

"Understanding how furniture will fit in a space is crucial. Using a measuring app means you don't have to pass up a one-of-a-kind piece at a flea market or antique store, because you are afraid it would be too large or small," says Cynthia Wilson of Cynthia B. Wilson Interior Design.

Benjamin Moore Color Capture (iOS, Android; Free)

Benjamin Moore's app lets you take a picture of any color that inspires you—the lake on a sunny day, a dusty rose hydrangea, fabric from your grandmother's vintage dress—and you will instantly receive its color match from Benjamin Moore's 3,300 paint colors.

"Color Capture encourages you to take a chance with a color you might have previously ruled out," says Wilson.



Art.com (iOS only; Free)

While creating a gallery wall looks straightforward, there can be a painstaking amount of measuring and arranging before you commit to hammering in nails. This app lets you create your "dream gallery wall," and perfect the layout to avoid patching up the aftermath of measurement miscalculations.

"Gallery walls are still strong, but getting them started is sometimes a challenge. This app lets you lay out the gallery wall virtually before you hammer in the nails. You can also purchase prints directly in the app," says McGee Wetzel.

Chairish (iOS only; Free)

If you're looking for unique, one-of-a-kind pieces, explore vintage treasures in the Chairish app. Once you've found the piece you can't live without, use its "View in Your Space" feature to see it in your own home. (Pro tip: Double-check the seller's ZIP code to avoid astronomical shipping fees.)



Homestyler Interior Design (iOS, Android; Free)

Eliminate any lingering scale or style doubts with this app's three-dimensional functionality. Before making any expensive electrical mistakes, view how the statement chandelier you've been eyeing will look in your foyer, or avoid costly return shipping costs by determining if a set of island stools will work in your kitchen.

"This app is an easy-to-use tool to help visualize your ideas. You can take a photo of your space and try out wall colors, décor items, furniture and more," says McGee Wetzel.

Hutch (iOS, Android; Free)

Hutch was developed with the idea to "allow anyone to discover their inner interior designer." Select the room you would like to design, your preferred style and budget, and Hutch will create a photo-like rendering of a sample room with shoppable decor items. You have the ability to edit the room to best match your taste, including changing the paint color, furniture and art selections. If you are happy with the design, add the pieces to your shopping cart and purchase them directly through the app.

TRANSLATE TO REAL LIFE

With the plethora of apps available at your fingertips, there is still no replacement for visualizing the item in your home. Scale is the most important element for creating a cohesive space.

"It's imperative to double-check measurements when purchasing items online. Use blue tape or stack boxes to thoroughly understand how large or small an item is for the room," says Wilson.

With the number of resources available to purchase furniture online only, the comfort factor can be a gamble. Wilson offers some tips to make sure the pieces that look perfect online provide the level of comfort and durability you need in a long-term piece of furniture.

"A trick is to look at the item's weight. If something is very light, I would be worried," says Wilson. "A dining room chair could be wonderfully upholstered and look great in photos, but you could find draping a coat on the chair causes it to fall backwards. Make sure you're purchasing solid pieces."

Wilson also advises that every piece you purchase online should come with a warranty. 🐾

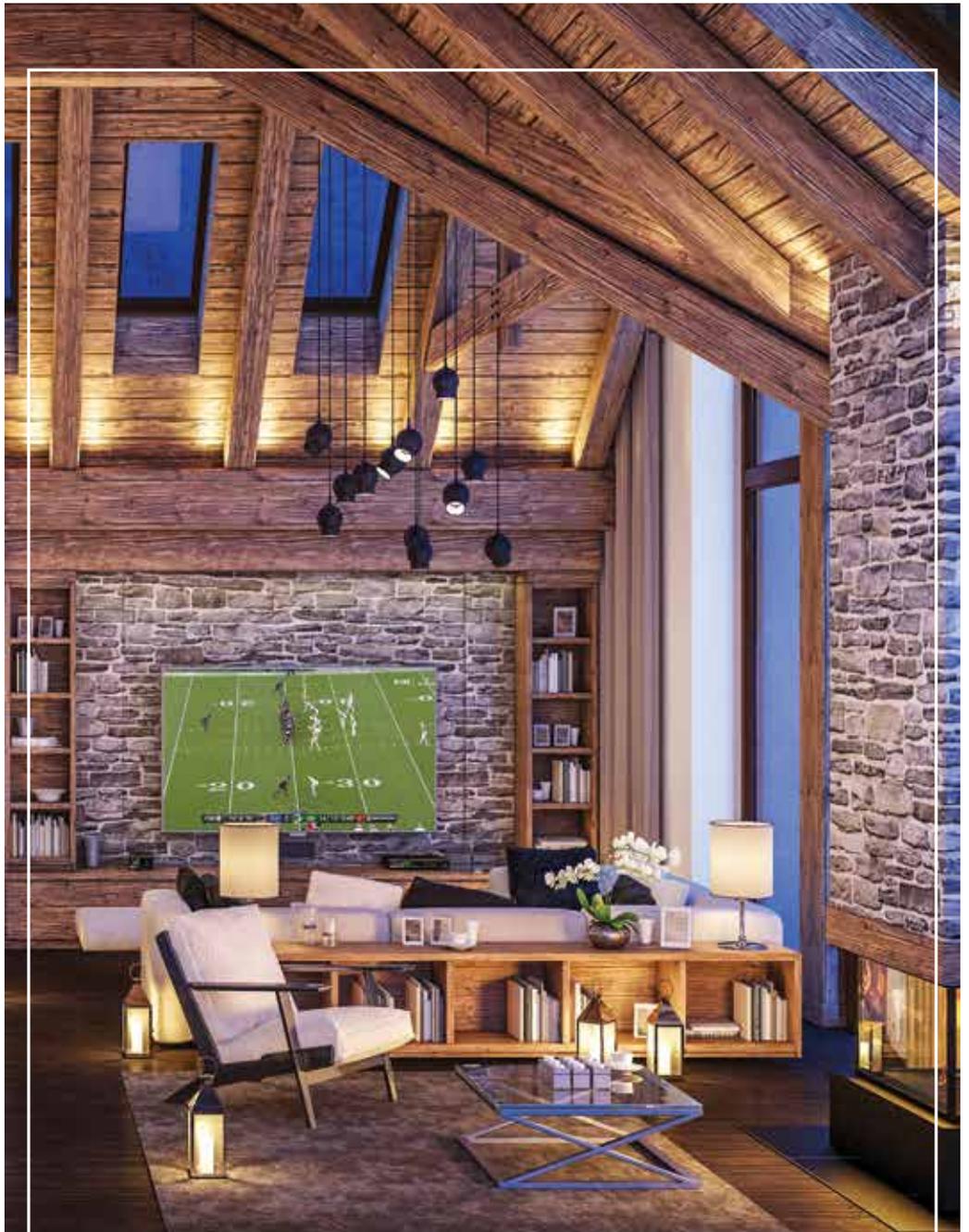
Picture-Perfect

While downloading a curated selection of home design apps can make designing your home infinitely easier, there is ultimately no substitution to seeing a color, fabric or texture in real life.

"The digital world is different than reality; you should never rely 100 percent on a digital image to make a design decision," says McGee Wetzel. "Always find a physical sample and bring it home to see what it looks like with your lighting. When in doubt, hire a professional to assist with space planning."

If you're looking to keep your design experience digital but still want a closer level of guidance, e-design is a smart middle ground.

"Some interior designers have entered the digital game by offering e-design. This is a great way to get professional advice, then execute the design yourself," says McGee Wetzel.



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warmth and light



Intimate spaces, like the booth that sits alongside the dining room table, are the focal point of this Lake Mendota home. The open floor plan also allows for fun times shared between Jim and Yvonne Gern and their three children along with parties and gatherings. Yvonne says, "We love to host family and friends."





How one couple built their lakefront haven full of relaxing spots, scenic views and sunny spaces.

By Shelby Deering
Photography by Chris Joyner,
Chris Joyner Studio, LLC

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The home is filled with cottage-style décor and heirloom objects, from the kitchen to the master bedroom to the second-floor office. Finds from Amish woodworkers and Pottery Barn pair perfectly with family treasures, like the painting of Jim's grandfather hanging in his office.





“We wanted to make our home comfortable and inviting, and Mark was a great inspiration,” Yvonne says.

The 40-by-180-foot lot was a beautiful piece of land, but it was not without its challenges. After tearing down a small cottage on the property, the work began to make the lot ready for the Gerns’ home. Jim explains that in their neighborhood, the soil can be different from place to place, which can make building a challenge.

“Mark worked to get a soil engineer involved. We had to do a little bit of lot work before we were able to build,” Jim says. “It was probably a six-month process to get the lot rearranged with the rain garden and everything else.”

Mark agrees that the top challenges were the “narrow lot” and “soil testing,” but he says it was worth it for the perfect “morning sunrise and viewing.”

BEAUTIFUL VISTAS

Jim spent his childhood in South Florida and the two plan many of their vacations around water, so it was only natural that their home has the look and feel of a breezy beach house. Over the course of a year, Yvonne and Jim, along with Mark and their builder, Dan Duren of Duren Custom Builders, worked to implement creative features and airy spaces throughout the 2,525-square-foot home.

Making it a goal to “maximize lake views in every room possible,” as Mark says, the team installed a second-floor deck, stone patio and copious windows that allow the lake to take center stage.

Jim mentions that narrow lots can make homes appear dark inside at times, especially if they’re in the shadow of other homes, and so clever design tricks were used to bring in more light.

Mark shares one of those tricks, saying, “Interior glass transoms throughout the home bring natural light into the interior.” These transoms, glass panels that sit atop doorways and walls, have a knack for making spaces seem lighter and brighter.

A skylight above the stairs permits even more light to enter the home, and the interior paint color, Hallman Lindsay’s “Fossilized,” keeps spaces looking fresh.

“We love the natural light,” Yvonne says.

Yvonne and Jim Gern wake up every morning to a stunning scene that comes alive with each season. In a home nestled on the shores of Lake Mendota, every fall, they delight in watching flocks of migrating birds as they glide on the water. Each winter, the ice beckons them to go skating. Spring means pulling out their canoes and paddleboards and enjoying the freshly-thawed waters. And summer is the time when their rain garden is in full bloom, brimming with milkweed and other native flowers that invite butterflies to come and play.

The two have always loved living on the water. Yvonne, a First Weber realtor, and Jim, a professor of pediatrics and medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, previously lived in a waterfront home in Spring Harbor. But when their children grew up and left the nest, the couple felt the pull to downsize, turning to Udvari-Solner Design Company and Mark Udvari-Solner, residential designer and associate AIA, to design their new home.

From the breezy interiors to the coastal exterior, the lake is clearly the muse behind this home's design. Stone accents, sourced from Northern Wisconsin, echo the natural look of the landscaping, complete with a butterfly garden that the homeowners planted themselves.





There are several meticulous features that suit the homeowners' needs, which is particularly seen in the kitchen. Yvonne describes the kitchen as "well-designed" by Jack Hernan of Kitchen Works with "thoughtful custom cabinetry and built-ins." This is where Yvonne enjoys cooking and baking bread, where extra storage drawers and slots for pans make baking a breeze.

Before building, Yvonne and Jim say that many neighbors on the street "graciously let us see their homes" so they could gather ideas. That's when they decided that an open floor plan would be best for their home. Mark agrees, noting that one of his favorite aspects of the home is "the simplicity and flow."

When they weren't visiting nearby homes for inspiration, Yvonne says she spent a great deal of time on Houzz.com, where she was able to uncover décor, products and color palettes that she wanted to emulate in their cottage-style home.



She says that the staircase, vanities and fireplace were all drawn from images found on the website and built by Chad Trow of Duren Custom Builders. Even the modern lights hanging above the stairs were discovered on Houzz. Nicole Fulton of Nest Interior Design also assisted with the interiors.

"We like comfortable and not formal furnishings," Jim says of their style.

Comfort is indeed evident in this home, with soft throw pillows at every turn, sink-down-in furniture and cozy corners that encourage cups of coffee and conversation. And a variety of dog bed options abound for the couple's yellow lab, Daisy.

The subtly-hued materials lend themselves to the overall feeling of lightness. The walnut cabinets are warm and familiar, meshing well with the white oak hardwood floors. Luminous quartzite countertops, hand-picked at Wisconsin Granite, punctuate the kitchen and bathrooms alike, along with the living room fireplace which is also rendered in quartzite.

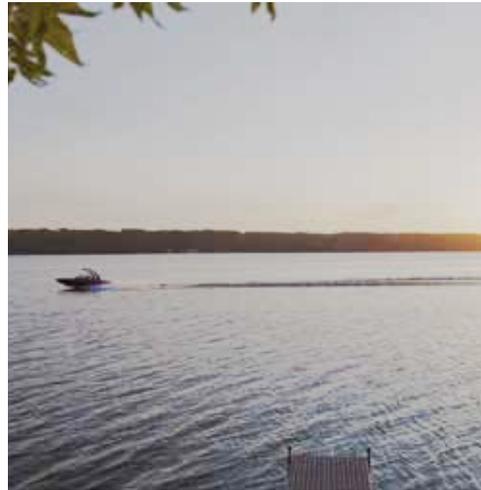
Jim and Yvonne have glowing things to say about their construction team. Yvonne shares their woodworker Chad is "a true artist." She says that their builder Dan "has a very gentle manner and knows how to get the job done" and adds that Mark is "not only extremely creative but a lot of fun to work with and welcomed our ideas."

According to Mark, the feeling is mutual. He says, "I enjoyed every phase of working with the Gems. We are very proud of the end result."

Now that it's been a few years and the couple has fully settled in, Jim and Yvonne are happy in their home, no matter the weather, the season or the landscape they look upon each day.

Yvonne says, "Every day is special, and we feel very fortunate." 🐾

Shelby Deering is a lifestyle writer from Madison, contributing to regional and national publications like At The Lake and Country Living.



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But luckily, you don't have to be on vacation to live here.

According to developer Kris Sturman, Waubesa Shores is the first lakefront condo development to be built in the Madison area since 2008. And the location can't be beat. "Waubesa Shores is conveniently located only 15 minutes from the downtown Capitol Square," says Sturman. "And it's an easy two-hour drive from Chicago." It's also close enough to the Beltline for a quick commute to both the east and west sides of Madison. And with that close proximity to the Chicago area, well, it would make for a nice vacation getaway—or an easy drive for your weekend guests.

"Waubesa Shores is a one-of-a-kind luxury development complete with balconies and personal boat slips in a quiet location," says Sturman. And the luxury is evident. "Standard amenities include a heated pool, hot tub, community room, fitness center, and upper-level plaza with a fire pit and beautiful sunset views," adds Sturman. Inside you'll find wood flooring, quartz and granite finishes and floor-to-ceiling stone fireplaces. And even the exterior is unique—accented with imported Italian porcelain and luxury stacked stone.

Waubesa Shores consists of 25 two-bedroom units and four three-bedroom condos and a penthouse on the third floor. "Each unit has a desirable open floor plan—overlooking the beautiful western sunsets," explains Sturman. "To preserve the neighborhood feel, the development is constructed into two buildings [connected at the ground parking level]. The north and south ends of the development are two stories tall and gradually increase in height as you move towards the center of the buildings."

In addition to all these amenities, Waubesa Shores rests on a two-acre lakefront parcel that serves as common space for residents to use for exercise and entertainment. "And Lake Waubesa connects to the other three Madison lakes," adds Sturman. What a perfect location for boating, swimming, skiing, tubing and of course, year-round fishing! And adding to that sense of community, with a few restrictions, pets are welcome here.

Waubesa Shores is a unique choice in lakeshore living, and a great place to make your home.



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A Contemporary Collaboration

An architect and interior design enthusiast perfectly marry their ideas into a dream home with a modern aesthetic and oh-so-cool style.

By Shayna Mace
Photography by Shanna Wolf

The initial draw to the lake for Shane and Terren Fry was a simple one: an Alumacraft fishing boat that Shane's grandpa owned.

"It was very old, and from early on when Shane and I were together—we'd just drop it into Lake Kegonsa where his dad lives, or we'd tool around Lake Mendota. We would dream early on, sitting in that aluminum boat, and I'd say things like 'someday I want to raise my kids on the water,'" says Terren.

The Frys also knew quite a few people that lived on Lake Monona. The dream became more of a concrete reality when the couple spotted a lot on a lagoon in Lake Monona that had been for sale for a long time—but it wasn't zoned for residential use.

One thing you'll see a lot of around the house is greenery. "I love houseplants," says Terren. "Put a houseplant in a space or in an otherwise stark area, and it can warm it up in a heartbeat."



“There was thousands of dollars’ worth of tree removal on the site, and there was an easement that went diagonally across the property,” explains Shane. “So, a lot of people would drive by this lot every day and look at it, but everybody thought you couldn’t build a decent-sized house on it. So, I started pulling out some plans, and I knew the public works director here. I had conversations with him and the public works department, and we got to a point where we said, ‘we could really do this!’”

The couple sold their other home and moved into a house Shane’s dad owned while they started the work on the site and the home. Besides the tree removal and having the easement removed, they also had to add a water and sewer line (which is no small feat). However, the challenges never scared Shane off. As co-owner and lead architect of Brownhouse

Designs, he’d worked on plenty of commercial and residential builds and knew the technical aspects of construction and engineering.

“The lot is sort of pie-shaped, with 56 feet in the front, and a little over 60 feet on the roadside. So when you’re trying to maximize the footprint and you’re trying to build what we hope will be our forever house, you want to utilize every square foot that you possibly can,” he says.

A MODERN MIX

The smart design starts with a gorgeous, yet simple silhouette on the outside. There’s no missing the couple’s home on the street—its sleek, boxy look with handsome inky-black siding and cedar-trimmed front and back showcase the marriage of modern and rustic that continues on the inside.

“[The home] is not exactly what I think Terren would probably build if she was going to pick out a house from a magazine. But I think that’s where the marriage of the interior and exterior come into play,” says Shane.



(Opposite page) The kitchen cabinet faces are from Kokeena and the cabinet boxes are from IKEA. It was a huge money-saver—but Shane admits assembling cabinets is not for the faint of heart. “The cabinets arrived in almost 300 boxes. Kokeena makes cabinet doors and they fit IKEA cabinet boxes. So you can throw on beautiful hardware from the money you saved on not buying custom cabinets. But it’s probably not something I’d recommend doing, because you have to know what you’re doing! Getting custom cabinetry is the way to go for most people.”



Agrees Terren: “If Shane were to build his own house, and I were to build my own house, they would probably not look anything alike, but that’s where we worked together really well. And Shane does a good job of bringing things to me even though it’s not quite my style. He’s very good about making sure that I’m seeing what’s out there that could be modified or [combined] together.”

The décor of the home has mostly Terren’s stamp she admits, ticking off Anthropologie as a huge inspiration in her vision. “I like the vibe of laid-back, bohemian and warm, [that] makes you feel like you’re on vacation. I like lots of rich textures—that’s something we both like.”

Take the main living area right off the front entryway. Two distressed caramel-colored Article leather couches beckon visitors to sink right in and enjoy the views of the lake. The plush Feizy rug adds a soft pop of color, and natural elements like the antlers above the fireplace (from Fry’s business partner, Laurel Brown), Great Lakes Distribution wood-stone tile fireplace surround, cozy Home Goods throw pillows and houseplants scattered throughout soften the otherwise stark color palette. Shane added the Noguchi-inspired glass coffee table for a jolt of modern to the rustic décor touches. The couple’s silver lab Bosco loves the room, too: he pads through the home, greeting visitors with a lick and then settles into the leather couches.

The adjacent kitchen with ten-foot-long Aurea quartz island, Bolier vinyl stools (the couple loves their durability), IKEA





and Kokeena cabinetry, Kichler pendants, Fioranese Goma backsplash and custom open shelving mean the kitchen is stylish—and also totally functional. “It’s a working kitchen,” says Terren.

The convenient dining area with built-in bench seating means dinner can go from stove to table in a flash. The AllModern light fixture, custom upholstered end chairs (also from Brown) and Sunpan dining table all meld beautifully with the living room and kitchen. Tucked in the corner is a gallery wall painted with chalkboard paint (that Terren had to have) full of photos of the family and their one-year-old son Dayton. The corner powder room is tiled with hexagon deco tile. The home’s entryway uses the same hexagon deco tile from Great Lakes Distribution, too.

Shane is quick to note that because of his connections with distributors and industry-exclusive furnishings and materials, it made their choices slightly easier, because he knew what products would wear well for their busy family life. Like the US Floors oil-rubbed engineered wood floor

used throughout both levels of the home. “A lot of the things we used are companies we use in the commercial world, like US Floors,” he says. “We picked a higher-end line by them for our floor.”

A DESIGN WITH SOUL

The second story houses a reading nook that overlooks the great room, Dayton’s bedroom, a guest room, the laundry room and master suite. The utility of the space is mapped out wonderfully—and it doesn’t hurt that the couple’s bedroom has a prime view of the lake. They outfitted their master bath with a luxurious shower, classic-look soaking tub and vintage dresser that was retrofitted with two sinks in it for a dual vanity. A spacious closet holds all of their essentials. On the lower level is an unfinished basement—but down the road the couple plan on adding another bedroom and bath down there, along with an entertaining area.

Although the home is haven for the family now, it didn’t come without a lot of hard work. For Shane that literally meant acting as the general contractor and building a lot of the home himself with his dad, framing it,

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(*Opposite page*) The couple's lake-facing bedroom and master bath are a sanctuary—especially with the traditional-look soaking tub. (*This page*) The home's siding color is called Midnight Oil—a color Terren chose. "The house is already very different, so I thought black would really make a statement," she says. Shane chose the clear cedar accents. "You see it a lot in contemporary architecture. It's pretty, weather-resistant and a natural material."



setting the windows and doors, laying the wood floors, doing the tile work and even siding some of the home. The couple hired Carrington Lawn & Landscape to whip the yard into shape.

Because of that deep involvement in every part of the home from the ground up (literally), the Frys have a personal connection to their abode—and it shows in the passion they've poured into every aspect of it. And it's the perfect manifestation of both of their personalities, too.

"I'm an architect who co-owns an architecture firm building a house for his family. I don't want it to look like everybody else's house!" says Shane. "We get people stopping while riding their bikes and taking pictures of the house because it's on the lake loop. If we would have built a very traditional house, it could have been very nice. But I think a lot of people like contemporary architecture—they just don't have the opportunity to do it." 🐾



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CULTIVATING A CLASSIC

A Maple Bluff abode's main floorplan gets a much-needed makeover, along with gaining stunning designer accents along the way.

By Melanie Radzicki McManus | Photography by Shanna Wolf

3,000 SQUARE FEET / 4 BEDROOMS / 3.5 BATHS



The home's sunroom is lined with windows to let the lake views flood into the home (*top*). One of homeowner Cary McCormick's favorite touches is the mirror TV above the fireplace (*far left*). Removing a chimney and peninsula that once separated the kitchen and family room means full views of the lake while cooking or dining (*left*).

McCormick designed the diamond-faced cabinets herself (*top right*). Dream Home Dream Kitchens' Keven Schmidt suggested removing a wall separating the dining and living rooms to open up and lighten the space (*bottom right*).



Owning a smaller home doesn't mean you can't create drama or expansive, million-dollar views. Just ask Cary McCormick, who has done both with her 3,000-square-foot home in Maple Bluff.

McCormick purchased the historic home five years ago. The traditional-styled structure was built in 1936 and designed by Frank Riley, a prominent Madison architect and the force behind such notable buildings as the Madison Club, the Governor's Mansion and Madison East High School. Although McCormick had previously owned other, larger, lakeside properties, she had no qualms about purchasing a smaller house. Blessed with a strong sense of design, she knew that with a little help she could not only personalize it, but help the house make the most of its scenic perch on the Lake Mendota shore.

GETTING TO WORK

Tapping design and remodel contracting firm Dream House Dream Kitchens for assistance, she decided to tackle the kitchen first. The kitchen was separated from an adjacent, small family room by a massive stone chimney that extended up to the second floor and down into the basement. The chimney, along with an island, peninsula and dark cabinetry, made the space feel cramped. The chimney also blocked the impressive lake views that flooded into the family room via a set of French doors.

McCormick gutted the kitchen, removing the chimney and installing one larger island in place of the dated smaller island and peninsula. The room's dark maple cabinetry was

swapped out for white-painted cherry cabinets emblazoned with diamond accents, which McCormick designed. Keven Schmidt, director of design at Dream House Dream Kitchens, says it was his job to make sure the diamond pattern was proportionate and aesthetically pleasing on every cabinet in the kitchen—a tall order, “because there were a lot of different sizes going on,” he says.





Next, McCormick dressed up the kitchen and family room with white cedar walls and ceilings. The family room ceiling was also adorned with wooden snowflake accents embedded with fiber optic lighting to create a twinkling-star effect in the evenings. A trip to Chicago resulted in a soothing gray-blue marble top for the island, plus a unique globe-shaped overhead light fixture pierced with an arrow, reminiscent of seafaring images. Crystal knobs and glass cabinet inserts helped create a fresh, uncluttered feel.

INSTALLING IMPROVEMENTS

A year later, it was time to reinvent the home's entry and bathrooms, again with assistance from Dream Home Dream Kitchens. The front entry was dark and dim, thanks in part to a largely solid door with just one tiny window. So McCormick replaced it with a door that is half glass. "Now I'll be home and say, 'Gosh darn it, who left the door open?'" because now I get so much light in the entry," she says.

Schmidt then approached McCormick with another idea to let more sunshine into the home: remove the wall separating the dining and living rooms. By doing this, the light that regularly flooded the dining room—courtesy of a bank of windows opening onto the lake—would spill into the living room as well. McCormick readily agreed, and was thrilled with the result: a much brighter living room and a more spacious feel throughout.

While the company was working on the living room, she decided to have them tweak its far wall, swapping out a wood-burning fireplace for a gas one and placing a mirror TV above the fireplace, among other changes. Finally, all of the multicolored rooms on the main level were repainted in white, save for a few walls brushed in blue—one of McCormick's favorite hues—which provides a subtle, pleasing pop of color.

SPA-LIKE VIBES

When it came to the bathrooms, McCormick was paired with Dream Home Dream Kitchens' Linda Eberle, senior designer. "We had similar tastes and we clicked immediately," McCormick says. The two tricked out the half-bath on the main level with a white, wooden ceiling, painted chest of drawers and dramatically patterned Ann Sacks ceramic floor tile.



Upstairs, a pint-sized bathroom in one of the home's four bedrooms was tiled and rearranged to optimize space. McCormick used a leftover piece of marble from her kitchen island to create the vanity top in the home's main bathroom off the hallway; Eberle suggested angling its corners to add space to the small room.

But the master bathroom remodel was the *pièce de résistance*. Eberle and McCormick teamed up to create a beautiful, luxe space. The compact shower features a marble ceiling and multiple shower heads, plus two glass panels opening to the adjacent tub, which brightens the space. Beveled mirrors and custom cabinet knobs with star-shaped backplates, hand-selected by McCormick, add to the room's posh vibe.

While the result is impressive, Schmidt says it was a very challenging job. "There's, like, 15 or so different tiles in that bathroom," he says. "When you do something like that, you have to lay it out on paper first, and then lay each tile on the floor before you put it on the wall. We worked five months on that bathroom. It's probably the most intricate bathroom we've ever done."

Both McCormick and the Dream House Dream Kitchens staff were quick

The custom knobs in the master bath (top) feature pretty star backplates, while blue ceramic Ann Sacks tile in the half-bath on the main level provides a pleasing pop of color (bottom left). The decorative tile in the main bath's shower niche matches the bathroom's floor tile.



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Numerous windows line the home's rear, ensuring Lake Mendota is never out of sight (top). Thanks to a new front door that is half glass, the home's entry is now light and bright (lower left). McCormick's favorite color is blue, a color she incorporated into her home whenever possible (lower right).

to praise one another for their work on the remodels. "They helped me follow through with my vision," says McCormick. "I love my cabinets that I got to design. I love my ceiling with the snowflakes that light up. They were fabulous to work with."

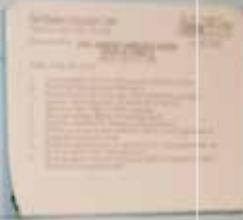
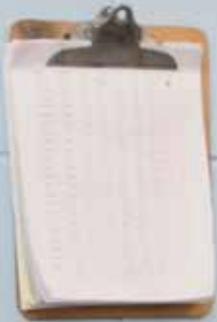
Says Schmidt, "Cary is an extremely good designer herself, and it's always fun to work with someone who knows materials and has really good taste and vision. Put that together with working on a Frank Riley home, and it was an amazing experience."

As hoped, McCormick's home today lets the light, and the lake, inside. In fact, Schmidt estimates you can see the lake from about three-quarters of the home's floor space—envious, million-dollar views many would love to have.

"People think you have to have 6,000 or 7,000 square feet to get a look like that," says Schmidt. "But you can do it with smaller spaces if you just open them up." 🐾

Melanie Radzicki McManus, who has built and landscaped two homes, enjoys meeting lake homeowners and geeking out over their projects. She often writes about Wisconsin from her home in Sun Prairie.

Photo: Shawn Harper



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The Creative Class

Living atop The Edgewater lends fantastic views not only of the downtown skyline, but of one couple's stunning art collection.

By Shayna Mace | Photography by Shanna Wolf

When Ellen and Peter Johnson started thinking about downsizing from their lakefront Maple Bluff home, the couple knew they still wanted to remain on the lake—sans the maintenance that comes with a single-family home. But condos on Madison's lakes are few and far between, so the couple had instead toyed with the idea of moving full-time to Montecito, California, where they own a second home.

But then Ellen's ex-husband Jerry Frautschi approached the couple in 2014 with an idea: he had bought a white-box penthouse at The Edgewater and decided against moving into it—would the Johnsons like to purchase it instead? Peter and Ellen considered it, and decided to buy it from Frautschi in October 2014. Right away

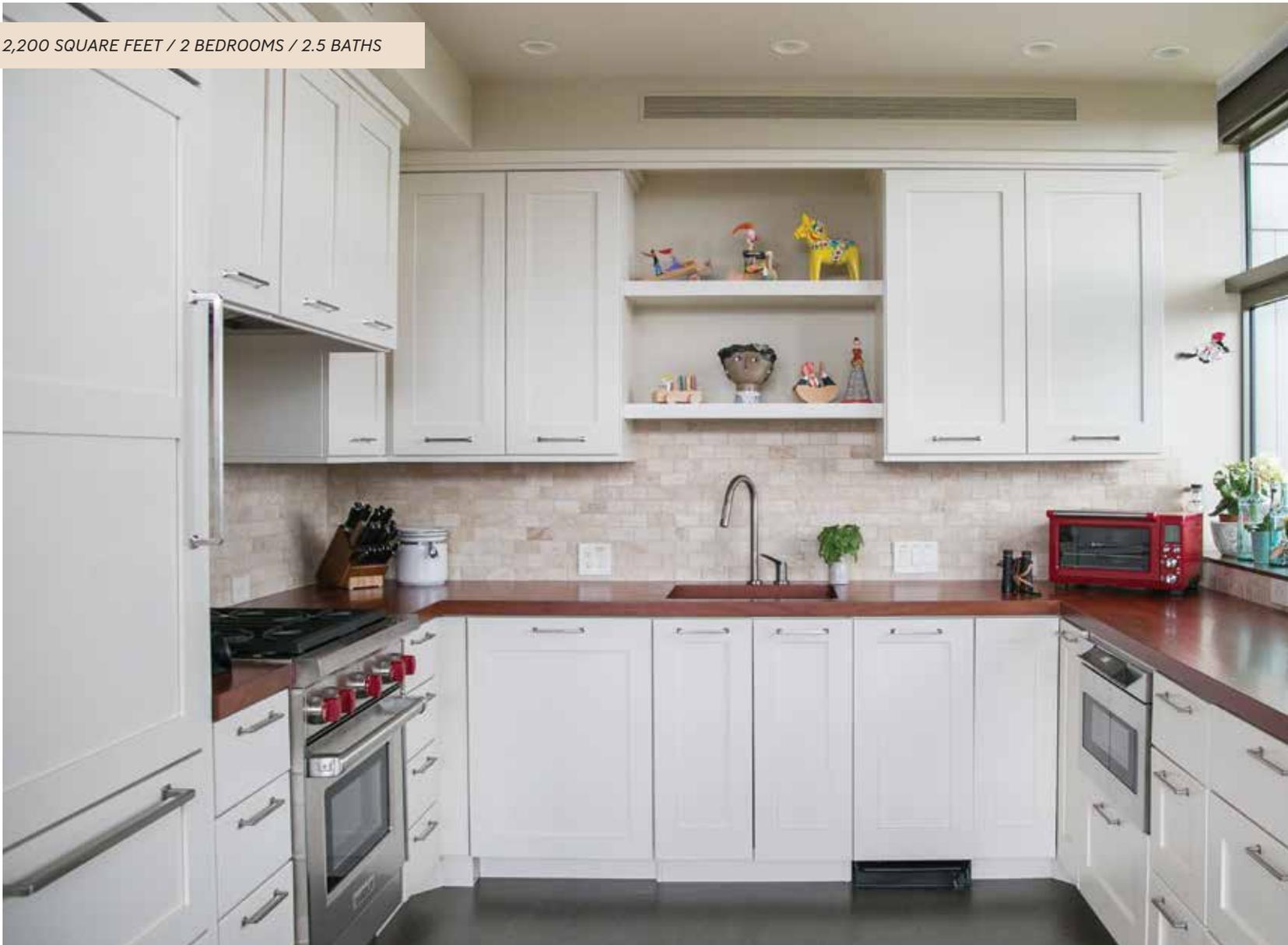
the couple started consulting with Dimension IV Madison Design Group to craft the floorplan, and with Doug Zander and Michelle Hackworthy of Zander's Interiors for their expert advice on layout, materials and eventually, décor. What resulted from two long years of construction and decorating is an exceptionally-designed, yet comfortable piece of heaven on a lofty perch, high above Madison's downtown and Lake Mendota.

MAKING IT WORK

Fitting together the floorplan was like a jigsaw puzzle—the Johnsons knew they wanted the basics in the design, including a master suite, his-and-hers office spaces and a guest bedroom. Because of how the high-rise building was laid out, the bathrooms,



(Opposite page) On the coffee table, small Buddha heads hold court. Ellen started collecting them on her travels, inspired by her mother, who also amassed a large suite of Buddha heads. Her mother's pieces are mounted in Ellen's office. (This page, top) The penthouse boasts a wraparound balcony on three sides. (Bottom, left to right) Pieces by Ford Ruthling; Robert Longo; antique apothecary jars passed down from Ellen's mother; Robert Indiana; and Rise Delmar Ochsner's portrait are all part of the couple's vast art collection.



kitchen and laundry room had to be in specific spots, because of where the plumbing was located. So Dimension IV Madison Design Group drew up the plans and the Johnsons asked Zander and Hackworthy for their opinions on the condo's layout.

"That was convenient before the construction started, to think it through, see the layout, look at what they had and make sure we could incorporate the things that were most important to them in the house. That was a huge factor in a lot of the things we did," says Doug Zander, owner of Zander's Interiors. The team made tweaks in the design, including carving a niche out in the front entryway for a treasured painting of the couple with their two poodles.

Being located in a high-rise building also presented other considerations—like making sure pieces could actually fit in the freight elevator, says Paul Dybdahl, owner and lead designer of Dybdahl Design, whose company outfitted the cabinetry throughout the whole condo.

"Anytime you're doing something in a high-rise, you are thinking about what you're creating and how it's going to get to the job site.

Not only how it can be constructed and installed, but can it be physically moved into there?" says Dybdahl.

Luckily there were few hiccups in the construction timeline, and the couple was able to move in in May 2016.

DESIGN DELIGHTS

Upon entering the penthouse, guests are first greeted by world-class art by Richard Dibenkom and Tandem Press's Judy Pfaff. An antique bench that was Ellen's grandmother's sits in the aforementioned nook, below an oil painting by New Orleans-based artist Rise Delmar Ochsner. The main living space opens up with creamy white walls, tons of light and stunning views of the capitol building in the distance.

"They were looking to have a downtown living feel, but they still wanted the place to have a warm feeling," says Zander. "So that was the main focus—clean spaces, simple colors, but not too traditional. So, it has a transitional feel to it. [The Johnsons] get so much natural light in there, so they wanted to make sure it's bright and sunny."

The other major design focus? Assembling a polished space integrating



the Johnson's stunning art collection. As a former art buyer for Marshall Erdman & Associates' (now called ERDMAN) senior living and healthcare facilities, Ellen traveled the world, collecting art from every corner of the globe. And she can tick off the name of every artist whose work is hanging in the penthouse, along with interesting tidbits about their work and life. And each room quietly lets the art shine, while also injecting stylish design at every turn.

In the living room and den, Zander stuck to the creamy palette, while adding pops of color in the living room's throw pillows and the den's brand-new furnishings.

"Ellen likes color, so we added shots of coral throughout, whether it was in pillows or furniture," explains Zander. "We did all exterior fabrics (including in the den's furniture) because of the amount of sun, and they didn't want a fading issue. We used almost all of the furniture they already owned, and then added new things that would be conducive to the space."

Built-in cabinetry by Dybdahl Design in the den adds ample storage and a wet bar for entertaining. A desk and game table also add function to the space for work and play. Hung above an antique rice chest from China in the corner is an original print by Alexander Calder.



(Opposite page) The kitchen's cork flooring provides excellent soundproofing for the floors below. *(This page)* Touches of eclecticism pop up in the couple's penthouse, like in the bunny wallpaper, fedora pendant lamps and even coral grasscloth wallpaper in the powder room. A bird painting by New York-based artist Valentina DuBasky plays off the hue beautifully.





In the California-inspired kitchen, eye-pleasing cream-colored cabinets juxtaposed against walnut countertops and dark cork flooring pack a lot of style—and utility—into the space. To the right is a bank of windows that lend eye-popping views of Lake Mendota, which makes washing the dishes a little easier. Two open shelves above the sink hold Ellen's Czechoslovakian puppets and Norwegian horses.

Even for serious art collectors, the Johnsons managed to inject a little whimsy into their space too—like in the fedora pendant light fixture above the kitchen table, and metallic bunny wallpaper in the guest bathroom.

“Doug was showing me orchids and birds and parrots for the wallpaper—and I said ‘no, no, no,’” says Ellen. “Michelle [Hackworthy] was listening to us, and she came over and said, ‘I bet you’d like this bunny wallpaper.’ And I loved it, and everybody loves it! It’s just so unique—and we had to have a little fun.”

Echoes Zander: “The bunny paper is whimsical and unexpected—we ended up making that work, and it’s great that something that’s not the norm works so well in that space.”

There’s no question that the Johnson’s penthouse is a one-of-a-kind—just like the artwork they’ve collected and the lives they’ve led. It’s the perfect showcase for who they are.

“It’s the first time we’ve lived downtown,” says Ellen. “Having access to restaurants and being downtown . . . and the hotel is very accommodating. And I like that we have less responsibility than we did at our old house on the bay.” 🐰

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SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS



Edward A. Birge and Chancey Juday operate a plankton trap in Lake Mendota in 1917. Birge was one of the pioneers of limnology, which is the study of inland aquatic systems. He was also a professor and dean at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and acting president from 1900 to 1903 and president again from 1918 to 1925. Birge Hall on the university's campus was named after him.

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