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LET'S GET TO NEXT



New Beginnings

With 2020 behind us, 2021 feels like the year to reflect and re-strategize how we move through our daily lives — especially our homes.

And if it feels like everyone is doing home improvements right now, it's because many homeowners are. The online home remodeling platform Houzz conducted a survey that found a 58% increase in project leads for home professionals in June 2020. We've certainly felt our lives change since our last issue, including bringing on assistant editorial director, Shelby Rowe Moyer!

Shelby Rowe Moyer (left): Hey, there! I am so happy to be here with you! I've been really inspired by much of what we're presenting to you in this issue. The aesthetics within my home and office have always been important to me. I'm the co-worker whose desk is curated with crisp greenery; little sculptures (I have ceramic miniatures of all my pets); and funky, midcentury modern art. To some, it's probably a bit much, but it fills me with energy and creativity. My design instincts are very maximalist, but I love the homes we're featuring. They have a calming atmosphere without feeling plain or understated.

Shayna Mace: In our house we've undertaken two larger home projects during the past year, as well as many small ones in between. We gave our main bathroom a facelift, taking its outdated look and non-functional flow and transforming it into a light, bright space that feels spa-like. In fact, I was inspired by the countless bathrooms we've featured in Lakeshore Living, and even pulled ideas from some past issues for our own project! #ILoveMyJob. Another bathroom is mid-makeover right now, and we're looking forward to its completion, too.

I love seeing how others transform their homes in small and large ways. And, the thoughtful details are my favorite part — like the playroom nook and tent area the Wallman family created for their kids, Vivien and Ty (see P. 46).

In general, we both feel like we could all use a little beauty right now, and this issue has that in spades — from interior design to recipes we hope will move you to create good food and conversation.

So, grab your drink of choice and settle in — it's time to dive into some inspiration.

Shayna Mace, Editorial Director
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of homes we feature
and what's happening
in our world.



5 Things We Love in This Issue



The purveyors behind Workbench Kitchen were inspired to create their own spatulas because nothing was a match for their homemade mega pancakes. P. 16



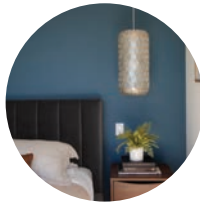
Just wait until you try this recipe from Bar Corallini's chef-owner Giovanni Novella. It's crispy on the outside, flavor-packed on the inside and totally gorgeous. P. 20



Benjamin Moore's 2021 Color of the Year, Aegean Teal, has me thinking about moody kitchens with brass accents. We liked it so much, we used it as a font color on our cover. Find more paint palettes on P. 22



The white Carrara marble in Scott and Kelly Baumbach's kitchen is simply striking with the grey speckling and herringbone pattern. P. 32



Lori and Cory Wallman's bedroom has us starry-eyed with those honeycomb lights. And the soaker tub with the lake view — there are no words! P. 47



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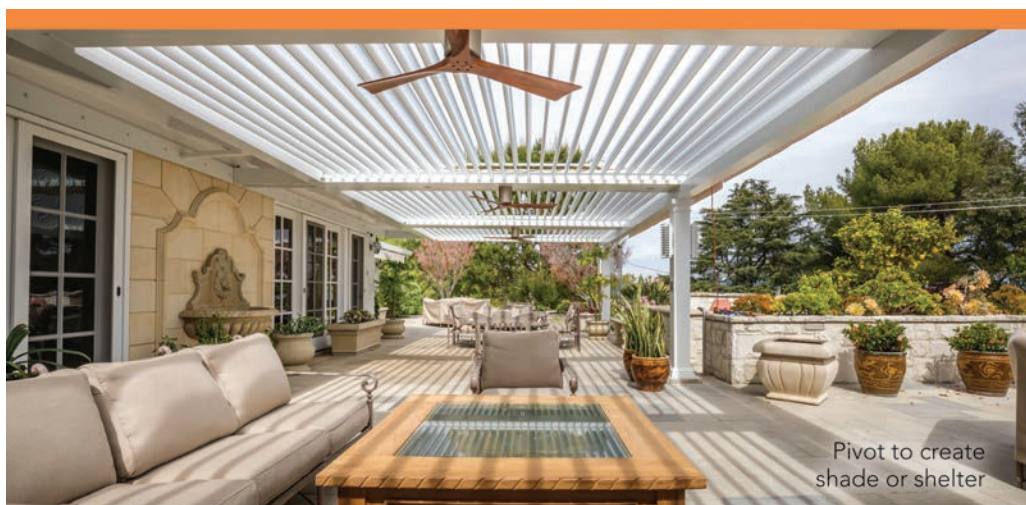
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Feast Al Fresco

Take advantage of long, warm days by bringing a meal outdoors. Picnicking becomes a snap with these items (many of which are reusable).

Styling and photography by Shanna Wolf



Backyard Garden

French Bull Appetizer plate set, \$20, **Orange Tree Imports**; Marimekko Pieni Siirtolapuutarha tray, \$38, and Marimekko Tilliskivi tablecloth, \$195, both from **The Century House**; Foragers playing cards, \$10, **Olbrich Garden Gift Shop**; Porter packable utensil set, \$18, **Little Luxuries**.



Park Picnic

Canasta wicker basket, \$75, **Lands' End**; Bee's Wrap variety pack, \$47, **Olbrich Garden Gift Shop**; Marimekko paper napkin pack, \$6, **Olbrich Garden Gift Shop**; Baggu Madras wine bag (set of 3), \$28, **baggu.com**; Artichoke hot/cold pack, \$6, **Olbrich Garden Gift Shop**; Porter lunch bowl, \$28, **Little Luxuries**.



On the Boat

Corkicle tumbler, \$30, **Plum Crazy**; Welly Traveler, \$30, and Porter cocktail glass, \$25, both from **Hazel General Store**; Saro Lifestyle block print cotton napkin (set of 4), \$59.95, and, **Lands' End Picnic Time Backpack Portable Cocktail Set**, \$220, both from **Lands' End**; Biobu Ekobu bamboo picnic set, \$70, **Little Luxuries**.



— SHOP THE LOOK —



Scalloped raffia shade, \$85, cruelmountain.com



Scalloped jute rug, \$265, from jaipurwithloverugs.com



Matouk for Schumacher Quincy sham, \$169, matouk.com



Paule Marrot "Viva" print, \$1,375, naturalcuriosities.com



May Flor Pencil Rattan bench, \$1,255, shopsocietysocial.com

{ Beautiful Blues }

With a portfolio ranging from homes in Milwaukee to vacation getaways in Door County, Meghan Posnanski of Summit Drive Design is a master at creating fresh and youthful interiors for her clients.

"My clients wanted something fun and unique for their Whitefish Bay [owner's] master bedroom, but didn't know where to start," says Posnanski. "We sorted through bags of samples and they were instantly drawn to Schumacher's Hydrangea fabric (shown above). That was our starting point for the design, and we took it from there to build a color scheme for the space."



Pattern Play Freshen up with hydrangea blue, one of nature's most timeless and classic colors. Use wallcoverings, trim and fabric to mix and match shades of this hue.

- 1. Gazebo Blue Fabric, quadrillefabrics.com
- 2. Firentina Two Color Fabric, quadrillefabrics.com
- 3. Climbing Hydrangea in Blue Wallcovering, quadrillefabrics.com
- 4. Keaton Lip Cord Trim in Navy, fschumacher.com

Hue Cues



STRATFORD BLUE, Benjamin Moore (831): The purple undertones in this almost-periwinkle blue color are perfect for walls, cabinets and furniture.



LULWORTH BLUE, Farrow & Ball (No. 89): This fresh, mid-blue color is both timeless and classic. Perfect for walls where you want a pop of color.

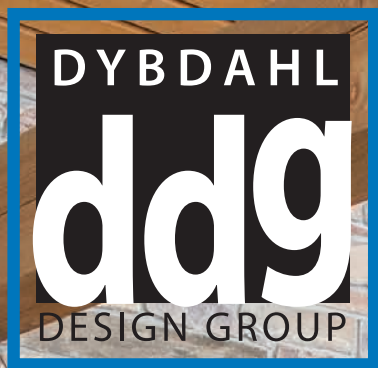


WISHFUL BLUE, Sherwin-Williams (SW 6813): This light color is both delicate and soothing, and is infused with subtle hints of lavender and gray. It pairs well with navy and green accents.

Produced by Alexandra Wood
[@alexandrawooddesign](http://alexandrawooddesign)



MAIN IMAGE INTERIOR DESIGN: SUMMIT DRIVE DESIGN | PHOTOGRAPHER ALIZA BARAN



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A Place to Gather

After nine years with an unfinished basement, a Waunakee family turned it into a warm, beautiful space where everyone could be together.

By Shelby Rowe Moyer



Tanya Quint said that when she and her husband, Ryan, built their Waunakee house in 2010, it was enough to swear them off big projects for a while. The Quints decided to leave the basement as a blank space, which they mostly used for storage, until 2019 when Tanya decided it was time to transform it into usable square footage for the family of four.

The Quints worked with Laura Groenier of Silver Leaf Interiors — who originally helped them design their home — to turn their lower level into a place where their friends and family could hang out.

With a loose concept in mind, Tanya and Ryan agreed that they didn't want the space to feel too refined or feminine, so they opted for a modern, industrial aesthetic with a mix of wood, stone and steel materials. Groenier came up with a design that created a natural flow from one space to the next, yet also incorporated elements from their main floor.

"Lower levels are often open to the first floor, and it's important to have these spaces connect seamlessly. You don't want a shockingly different experience," says Groenier, who helped the couple narrow down the creamy wall color, flooring and trim.

One of the main challenges when renovating the basement was the layout. Groenier says it was a wide-open space with a structural pillar in the middle of the room that housed part of the HVAC system.

Design Tip

Adding contrasting trim elements, such as a chair rail or a ledge on walls that have a lot of empty space can help visually break them up and add eye appeal.



Tanya Quint loved the idea of using barn doors to close off the exercise room, but she didn't want it to look rustic. The ribbed glass gives it the industrial, artistic vibe the family wanted.



In order to create visual interest and make it feel less like a basement, Groenier and Tanya decided to curate a few distinct spaces where people could hang out at the bar, around the fireplace, TV area or at a game table. When people are down there, it allows everyone to spread out into their own area, while still being together.

To solve the issue of the pillar, Groenier decided to build the fireplace out from one end and connect the bar to the other — and now it's a standout design element, instead of an obstacle.

"I fell in love with the fireplace," Tanya says. "I told Laura, I've seen these, and I wanted a three-sided glass fireplace. It's simple and clean, but we both knew it would pull the room together."

The bar is another showstopper. The design called for a live-edge counter top, and Tanya found and refinished a slab of black walnut for the bar top. The wood is balanced out with industrial pendant lighting and a steel

façade on the lower part of the bar, which was distressed by Custom Metals to give it a rough, artistic edge.

The end result of the space is more than they imagined it would be, Tanya says. Aside from the main entertaining area and wet bar, tucked away behind ribbed glass barn doors is a workout room. The renovation wrapped up before the pandemic started, and she said they were grateful to have this additional retreat space, especially because the whole family was home a lot.

"Everything down there looks like art, but it's useable, and that's exactly the goal," Tanya says.

When renovating a basement, Groenier's advice is to use any support beams as a starting point to create flow within the room. Tanya echoes this, saying to ask yourself, "How can you hide the ugly?"

It could ultimately work to your advantage. 🐾



A structural pillar in the middle of the room was used as the starting point to define the different spaces. The fireplace was built out from one side and the bar from the other.

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Meet the Maker



Labor of Love

By Jessica Steinhoff

It all started with a spatula. Jonathan Uecker couldn't find the right model for making the hearty breakfasts he loves. The big ones were clunky, and the smaller ones were no match for a pancake of epic proportions. To solve this problem, he looked to one of his favorite pastimes: woodworking. And in 2017, **Workbench Kitchen** was born.

This Stoughton-based, online purveyor of wooden spatulas, serveware, cutting boards and more is the brainchild of his wife, Hanna, who watched his creations become treasured objects in the homes of family and friends. She credits the brand's success to Jonathan's craftsmanship and the spatulas' unique design.

"Our Original and Perfect Pancake Spatulas are ergonomically curved to the right for right-handed users and the left for left-handed users, which allows for easy flipping and rotating," she says. "They also have a unique bend in the handle, which is made using an ancient woodworking technique that not only creates a beautiful, functional design but also strengthens the wood."

Workbench Kitchen also exists to help people cultivate a happy, healthy home life. Each kitchen tool is made of locally-sourced, sustainably-harvested maple, cherry or walnut and coated with a plant-based finish that has a mild citrus scent. So many customers raved about this scent that the Ueckers began offering it in candle form.

"It helped us create our first candle, the Workbench Kitchen Candle," explains Hanna, who crafts each candle from clean-burning soy wax, scented oils and a wooden wick. There's another ingredient as well: love, the kind that grows from creating together.



"When Jonathan and I began dating, we spent a lot of our time together renovating a dilapidated house he'd bought," Hanna says. "This showed us that we could work well together, and combining our skills to run a business has been a beautiful thing. We couldn't do this without each other."

workbenchkitchen.com

Shoppist



Scandinavian Style

Midcentury modern and Scandinavian interiors are the heart and soul of **The Century House**, but this minimalist mecca was a destination before the "Mad Men" era came about.

Established in 1948, it was first known as a ceramics studio that made custom pieces for special occasions. It also sold gifts, as it still does today, in its building at 3029 University Ave. There you can find Marimekko scarves, Charley Harper puzzles and other treats for aesthetes. Across the parking lot from the gift store you'll find their impeccably arranged home furnishings store, too.

Meanwhile, another showroom with home and office furnishings at 3420 University Ave. is a celebration of clean lines, natural materials and unfussy elegance in interior design. Though many people associate this look with the 1950s and '60s, it has an enduring appeal. General manager Jacob Harlow chalks this up to a combination of tradition and innovation.

"Modern Scandinavian designers often focus on finding the essence of what a piece of furniture or decor needs to be, along with ways to keep it simple and elegant in both form and function. It's common to find classic materials like wood and wool paired with a form or purpose that's relatively new," he explains.

More than 60 modern and Scandinavian brands are represented, including Blu Dot, Herman Miller, Skovby and Umage. One of Harlow's favorites is Carl Hansen, a Danish furniture manufacturer known for producing iconic pieces.

"Carl Hansen produced many great pieces designed by Hans Wegner, who is probably the best-known Scandinavian designer from the 1950s and '60s. He pushed boundaries, created innovative forms and incorporated ideas that were new at the time, like ergonomics," Harlow says.

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Ten Minutes With TAMMY SCHREITER

The curator of Hatch Art House (and the owner of next door's Hazel General Store) spotlights Wisconsin-based artists by purveying paintings, pottery and paper goods while reaping inspiration along the way.

By Shelby Deering

What were you doing before you opened Hatch Art House?

Although I'm from Appleton, before I opened Hatch, I was living in Portland, Oregon, and working at a restaurant as a server. Throughout my adult years, I worked in art galleries during the day and waited tables at night, all while selling my own paintings and jewelry on the side, honing my skills as an artist and as a salesperson.

You recently celebrated your 10th anniversary of operating Hatch Art House. How does that feel?

It's a wonderful feeling of achievement! Ten years in a business is a huge milestone. Hatch has had many ups and downs throughout the years — it's such an honor to be representing so many local artists 10 years in.

Why is Williamson Street the perfect place for Hatch?

I chose Willy Street because of the community vibe and its eclectic array of shops and restaurants. In turn, this provided instant foot traffic and visibility. Hatch was the first business in what was, at the time, a brand-new building, so it was a risk, but it turns out it was a risk worth taking.

What do you see in an artist's works that moves you to carry them at Hatch?

There are many variables



that go into bringing in a new artist. Mainly, is the gallery in need of that particular medium and style? If yes, will the artist be able to bring in new work when needed? And of course, most importantly, that gut feeling that the artist and their artwork will work well with Hatch.

What kind of art inspires you?

The kind of art that creates a mood. This is why I personally like to paint landscapes. But I really enjoy a piece of art that draws me into another world

— creating a mini escape from daily life.

What are a few of your favorite local haunts?

Olbrich Botanical Gardens for a lazy day of garden and painting inspiration. The [Memorial Union] Terrace on Lake Mendota to enjoy a summer sunset. The Arboretum is my favorite place to ride my bike. Ha Long Bay is my go-to neighborhood restaurant. And of course, walking along Willy Street and visiting my fellow retailers. 🐾



This limited-edition art print by Madison artist Tahlia Day is called "Colonization: Wallpaper Acres." She layers old papers with watercolor and ink to create a fantasy world. Art prints are an affordable way to collect art.

I love the painting "Deep Dive" by Nicci Martin. For such a small painting, it creates a big, underwater world for your mind to explore.



These brass and abalone earrings by Cival Collective have a shape that's very flattering, and the abalone really captures the light in a special way.



This scalloped denim blue bowl is by Madison potter Jenny Blasen. This blue glaze is gorgeous, and the scalloped edge gives it a feminine flair.



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Entertain Like A Chef

This party-pleaser is chef-created and approved for your next fête (remember those?) — or night in.

BY KRISTINE HANSEN

When you have guests over, enjoying the company of friends and family is the easy part. Deciding what to serve? That's when hours of scrolling through recipe inspiration often has us stumped (and stressed).

Chefs are the best people to pose this question to, as their life's work involves developing recipes and executing plating that inspires guests to whip out their smartphones to capture the beauty.

So, we tapped the brilliant, flavor-driven mind of Giovanni Novella, chef-owner of Bar Corallini in Madison, to get the recipe for one of his favorite appetizers.

"It's not that complicated," says Novella about arancini di riso, a fried rice-balls appetizer from southern Italy. Novella grew up in Naples, Italy, and arrived in Madison via San Diego five years ago. "It's something that you can make ahead. People sometimes make it with leftover rice. Outside it's super crunchy, inside it's creamy."



Chef Novella's Signature Entree

Giovanni Novella's mushroom pappardelle pasta is one of his favorites. Visit lakeshoreliving.com for the recipe.

Arancini with Meat Ragu



"This is one of my favorite 'street' foods in southern Italy."

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR THE RICE:

Warm chicken or vegetable stock in medium saucepan. Keep warm (on a burner) and set aside. In a large saucepan, warm olive oil over medium heat. Add onion and cook 2-3 minutes. Add rice to oil and onion, stirring over medium heat until rice starts to brown. Add white wine to deglaze the pan. Slowly add warm broth to rice while stirring. Add all broth. Stir and cook rice for 15-20 minutes, until rice is firm but cooked. Remove from heat and add cheeses, egg yolks and peas. Pour onto a sheet pan to cool.

FOR THE MEAT SAUCE:

Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add celery, carrots, onion and garlic. Cook and let vegetables sweat for 6-8 minutes. Add ground beef and sausage, and cook until brown. Deglaze pan with wine. Add San Marzano tomatoes and tomato paste, and stir until combined. Season with salt, pepper, basil and red pepper flakes. Reduce heat and let simmer for 45 minutes to 1 hour.

TO ASSEMBLE:

Form the cooked rice into the size of a tennis ball. Flatten ball into a disc (like a pancake). Add about 2-3 tablespoons of meat sauce. Pack meat sauce nice and tight into the rice ball. Let rest for 20 minutes in the fridge (on a sheet pan).

TO BREAD AND FRY ARANCINI:

In a large pan, add oil and heat to 360 degrees. Set up breading station of flour, eggs and breadcrumbs, using in that order. While oil is heating, roll chilled arancini in the breading station. Fry arancini 8-10 minutes or until golden brown. Let rest on a paper towel. 🍴

INGREDIENTS

YIELD: 12 TO 15 SERVINGS

FOR ARANCINI:

5 cups chicken or vegetable stock
¼ cup olive oil
1 cup minced yellow onion
3 cups arborio rice
¾ cups dry white wine
1 cup Parmigiano-Reggiano, grated
1 cup green peas (fresh or frozen)
4 egg yolks
12 ounces fresh mozzarella, cut into ½-inch cubes
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

FOR MEAT RAGU:

3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
½ stalk celery, chopped
3 carrots, chopped
1 medium yellow onion, chopped
1 garlic clove, minced
1 pound ground beef
1 pound Italian sausage
½ cup dry red wine
4 cups San Marzano tomatoes
½ cup tomato paste
Kosher salt
1 cup fresh basil leaves, chopped
½ teaspoon red pepper flakes

FOR BREADING:

2 cups flour
4 large eggs
4 cups breadcrumbs

Curating a Self Care HAVEN AT HOME

Home is where the heart is — and pretty much everything else these days.
Here's how to cultivate peaceful spaces in your own abode.

By Deanna Kane | Photography by Shanna Wolf



Now, more than ever, seeking solace at home is vital for health and wellbeing. Creating an atmosphere of wellness and grounding can be accomplished through carefully selected home design elements and the power of color psychology.

Every year, the major paint retailers select their colors of the year (see sidebar). For 2020, they made prophetic color selections — each hue was chosen to inspire relaxation and reprieve at home.

For 2021, we're still seeing soothing color choices from paint purveyors — along with some hues that evoke a little more energy. (See next page).

To learn more about creating an at-home sanctuary, we spoke with local designers who shared their tips on curating much-needed balance and positivity within your spaces.

THE POWER OF SIMPLICITY

As people continue to seek refuge at home, many spaces are multi-purpose. Simplicity is a must to prevent a chaotic energy.

"As we use existing spaces for new purposes, like homeschooling and work, there is a trend to keep spaces simple, but also inviting," says Erica Zander Meier, owner of Zander's Interiors.

A relaxing atmosphere requires editing to remove negative

emotions that are often the result of too many items.

"When I create spaces meant for relaxation, I remove visual clutter," says Carrie Simpson, owner of Vault Interiors & Design. "Eliminating excess can reduce stress or anxiety."

Sarah Helf, founder and designer of Sarah Helf Interior Design, LLC agrees. "There is no way to feel relaxed in a space that is overflowing with piles, boxes, bags and toys."

LOOKING INWARD

Recognizing the elements that calm you is an important part of a wellness-focused home design.

"Identify what makes you relaxed and happy," says Helf. "For example, if natural elements soothe you, incorporate wood furniture, plants and different textures."





While personal preferences are what make your home unique to you, relaxing spaces often have the same unifying features.

"Combining design elements such as soothing color palettes, lighting, correct spacing of furniture and mindful decor will facilitate relaxation at home," says Nicole McCoy, owner of NicoleMdecor.

Lighting plays a substantial role in the feeling of a space. Helf says, "A correctly lit room can elevate your mood."

Questions Helf asks her clients include, "Are you able to bring more light into your home by enlarging window openings or fully opening window coverings? Are your lights on a dimmer to customize the light by task and time of day?"

COLOR PSYCHOLOGY

Color is a low-effort, high-impact way to update the space, and change how the room makes you feel.

"I have seen an increase in blue and green color palettes. Blue can calm your mind and reduce anxiety. Green can also be restorative," says McCoy. "My clients are subconsciously choosing these colors because they need a calming space."

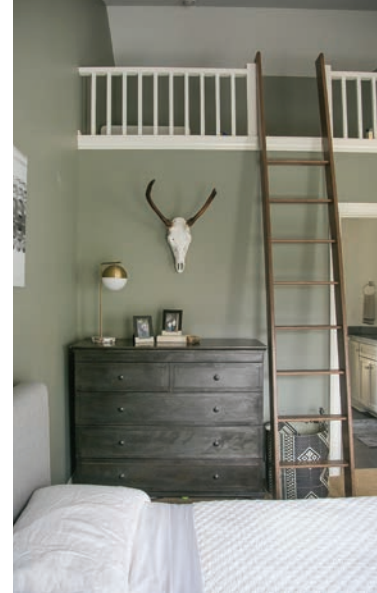
Achieving relaxation at home through the use of color is unique to each individual.

"Changing a paint color in a room can create a new mood," says Meier. "I did this in the first two weeks of the safer at home order. We selected a dark navy blue to create a more restful and cozy space for reading and relaxation."

Color palettes in neutrals, blues and greens are top choices to create repose.

NEUTRALS

- **Creamy white.** "When I create tranquility in a space I always include paint colors with warm undertones, like Sherwin-Williams Creamy," says McCoy.
- **Greige.** "Many of my clients like warm tones, like Benjamin Moore Gray Owl or Balboa Mist," says Helf.
- **White.** "A fresh, light space can quiet the mind. A few of my favorite white paint colors are Sherwin-Williams Alabaster; Benjamin Moore White Dove, a warm white; or Benjamin Moore Chantilly Lace, a crisp, bright white," says Simpson.



BLUES AND GREENS

→ *Spa blues and greens.*

"We typically see colors that reflect the ocean, including Benjamin Moore's Beach Glass and Sagebrush," says Meier.

→ **Greens.** "Greens can be calming and grounding. A soft, blue-green like Sherwin-Williams Sea Salt is great for creating a spa-like room, and Benjamin Moore Vintage Vogue for rich, deep color," says Simpson.

→ **Navy blue.** "Blue is perfect if you are looking to promote more stillness in your home. Sherwin-Williams Languid Blue is peaceful and restful. Benjamin Moore Hale Navy is great in a bedroom or den," says Simpson.

"Finding the right color for a room can dramatically change how you feel in that room: relaxed or energized, restored or agitated, even how productive or distracted you are," says Simpson. 🍷

2021 Colors of the Year

- **Behr, Canyon Dusk:** Selected for its grounding, connective and tranquil properties. Canyon dusk is reminiscent of travels to ancient Moroccan cities and glowy sunsets.
- **Sherwin-Williams, Urbane Bronze:** This slate-like tone creates a statement with its modern appeal. Its "warmth and comfort breathe down-to-earth tranquility."
- **Benjamin Moore, Aegean Teal** is both soothing and uplifting, and encourages you to "celebrate the simple pleasures." The youthful hue looks dashing against bronze fixtures.



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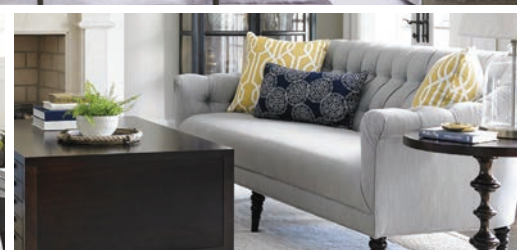
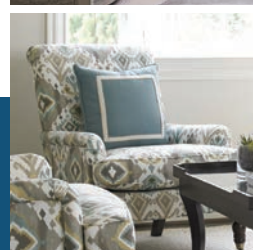
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What to Consider Before Tackling a Renovation

By Deanna Kane

A renovation project takes a substantial amount of planning — even if you're working with a professional. Hiring an interior designer, architect, contractor or a design-build firm will help you realize your vision and take the reins with executing it. But, to fully maximize your investment, thinking through what you're looking to gain from your renovation will ensure that you get the most from your project.

SPACE PLANNING 101

Before consulting with your remodeling team, understand how you currently use the space. Think through what works, what doesn't and what you would like improved. The professionals will take it from there.

"We encourage our clients to make some lists. One list should be what they like in their current home, then to also identify what they don't like," says Chad Speight, president of Chad's Design Build. "Our clients don't need to be able to solve those problems. That's what we do."

When space planning, the function of a space takes priority, and the form will follow.

"Always think of function first, and go through a checklist of how you operate at home," says Jean Kruzan, owner of J Kruzan Construction. "When you enter your home, do you have a good place to hang your jacket? A place to set your groceries? Do you have a good drop zone?"

In an HGTV-saturated world where the open floor plan is king, Kruzan suggests thinking through the alternatives before you become set on removing all the walls.

"You should also think about the flow of traffic and furniture placement when remodeling. Removing walls can change that," says Kruzan. "Consider if you're losing storage space, and if so, where will you make up for it if you knock out the wall, such as adding a closet or built-ins."

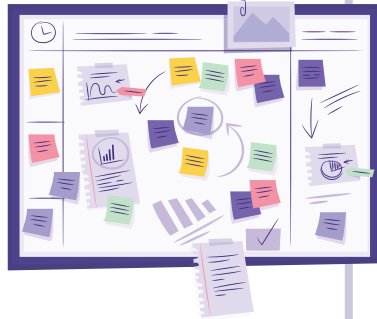
HAVE A PLAN, AND STICK TO IT

Many home renovation veterans have stories about how over budget their project went and how much longer it took to complete. The biggest reason for this is not having the layout and materials finalized. Not being confident on either of these elements is an easy way to incur costly and time-intensive changes.

"Planning is critical. If you start a demo and then have to wait weeks for the cabinets, the remodel will be a nightmare," says Kruzan. "Making decisions under pressure is not fun and can lead to bad choices."

Devising a plan isn't just to save time and money. This level of planning is key to creating a cohesive design scheme.

"Planning will help you see how everything will pull together in terms of colors, texture and flow. When you plan, you might consider how other areas of the house will be affected by the remodel," says Kruzan. "For instance, how is the new flooring and existing flooring going to tie in together? Do we extend painting into some of the surrounding areas?"



INTENTIONAL LIGHTING

Lighting shouldn't be an afterthought. Understanding how your contractor will install lighting can help you think about how much light you might need in a room. While lighting is an area that a professional will help you plan, visualizing it before your renovation will help you stay invested in the process.

One tip is to divide the ceiling into a grid to determine the amount of recessed lighting you need. Speight suggests, "Depending on how much light you want, center each light in one of those squares on the ceiling."

An important lighting detail to include is dimmers. Even if you can't visualize how much lighting you will need, dimmers will allow you to control the level of illumination.

"While lighting plans should be decided case-by-case, I do recommend putting in as much lighting as possible, because you can always put dimmers on to reduce the light," says Kruzan.



"Always think of function first, and go through a checklist of how you operate at home. When you enter your home, do you have a good place to hang your jacket? A place to set your groceries?"

— Jean Kruzan, owner of J Kruzan Construction

A SPEND VS. SAVE BREAKDOWN

To avoid renovation sticker shock, identify the areas where you want to splurge and where you can save. Particularly if this is a forever home, allocating a healthy portion of the budget to permanent design aspects is a smart investment.

"Homeowners should spend on the structure and mechanicals of the house: windows, insulation, furnaces, water heaters, lighting and cabinets," says Kruzan. Particularly during a kitchen renovation, investing in the right set of cabinets can pay off down the road.



"With cabinets, there are a few aspects that will explain the vast differences in costs," says Speight. "A typical cabinet is made out of MDF chipboard, which can expand and deteriorate when it gets wet. Plywood is a great upgrade to give you a sturdier box." To help reduce renovation costs, save on items that can be easily upgraded, like light fixtures and hardware.

Additionally, if there's a project you may want to complete in the future, such as a basement bathroom, Speight recommends installing the plumbing and wiring so those projects are easier to complete as your budget allows.

A LIFESTYLE APPROACH TO STORAGE

Overlooking the intricacies of storage can be common without a professional's insight. Kitchens, in particular, offer a wealth of storage options that aren't typically well-known to homeowners.

"Custom kitchen cabinet solutions allow everything we're used to seeing on a counter to be carefully stowed away. Drawers can organize cooking utensils more thoughtfully so you can find the items you need when you need them, and, they're not on the counter," says Speight.

Revisiting your list of what doesn't work can help provide valuable insight to your contractor (or construction firm), so they can help solve your storage dilemmas.



"We see cabinet solutions that allow you to access items in the back of the cabinet. It lets you view the cabinet like a drawer so you can see the items from the side," says Speight.

While the pros are here to help you bring your vision to life, understanding your basic renovation needs and how your space can best work for you will help you fully maximize your investment. 🏡




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Escape THE ORDINARY

Scott and Kelly Baumbach's Lake Mendota home is the ultimate display of how a minimalist palette can be used to create an extraordinary result.

By Shelby Rowe Moyer | Photography by Shanna Wolf

BRIGHT LIGHT

These aren't your typical windows. Amanda Van Wie of DesignWell Interiors says the drywall return windows offer a sleek, more modern look, since there's no trim around them. To add contrast, they opted for black baseboards.



In Scott and Kelly Baumbach's home, nothing is ordinary. Touches like handsome black trim, the white Carrara marble herringbone tile kitchen backsplash and the artisan-crafted walnut table in the dining room — it's all a notch above what you'd expect.

When the Baumbachs built their Waunakee home in 2018 on Lake Mendota, they wanted it to be timeless and elegant, but also livable. The upscale, custom home was curated to feel comfortable and calming.

The Baumbach's previous home — also a new build — was very trendy and colorful, Kelly says. So, while they loved it at the time, it quickly felt outdated. When planning the details of their current home, the couple realized they wanted to incorporate a quieter color scheme.

Kelly researched home elements that have remained classic and appealing throughout the ages. She felt that a minimalist white and black palette with warming wood accents would feel refreshing for decades to come. Shaker cabinetry was another



A FAMILY HEIRLOOM

This walnut table was made from wood harvested on Kelly's parent's Minnesota farm. Scott and Kelly partnered with an artisan woodworker to create a completely custom table that seats 10 people.

timeless must-have, so the cabinetry throughout their home was custom-made in this style.

The couple worked with Acker Builders to transform the vacant, lakefront lot into their contemporary, coastal home. Interior designer Amanda Van Wie of DesignWell Interiors was brought in for design expertise.

The Baumbachs found a floor plan and worked with Acker to adjust and customize it, resulting in an airy, four-bedroom,

six-bathroom home with a four-car garage, sunroom, wine room, two offices and recreation room that allow Scott and Kelly and their two daughters, Tenley and Tayton, to spread out.

"It was great to [be here] during quarantine with the views of the lake ... and the open floor plan created a lot of space when we were all here for the extended period of time," Kelly says. Being able to go outside was another bonus, for calming water vistas. "The lake looks different every day," she adds.

CUSTOM CRAFTED

→ It's difficult to tell in these photos, but the TV and fireplace wall mimics the look of stone — an aesthetic a local artist achieved with layers of paint.



WARM WOOD ELEMENTS

← Most of the flooring throughout the home is this gorgeous Iberian Hazelwood (a few of the rooms have carpet). "We wanted a beach-y driftwood look, so that it feels almost like you're on a beach," says Scott, on why they chose this flooring. Finding light-colored hardwood was a challenge when they built the home. At the time, dark hardwood floors were trending in the Midwest.

The clear pine wood wall inlets (above) provide a nice visual contrast to the white and black interior. "Clear pine is actually one of the very few wood species that is white by nature," says Van Wie. "Whenever you stain it, it will take on the true color of the stain, so it's one that coordinates well with other wood species."

ANGLES + CURVES

↓ The ensuite has subtle touches of glam with gold accents and champagne colored cabinetry. If a space is beginning to feel too angular, adding rounded elements — like the mirror, vases, towel holders and soaker tub — can break up those lines.



CLASSIC COLOR

In need of the perfect, soft white? The Baumbachs opted for Heron Plume by Sherwin-Williams — which has a slight grey hue — and used it throughout the entire home.



↑ Having an all-cream owner's bedroom was important to Kelly, who took charge on the design. Van Wie says because the Baumbachs wanted the whole house to feel bright and modern, they used the black trim throughout to provide contrast and visual balance.

Design Tip:

Van Wie is a firm believer in high/low decorating. Splurge on lighting, flooring, window treatments and cabinetry, she says. Things like accent furniture, art and décor are places you can save within your budget. The artwork above the bed, for example, was a HomeGoods find.



OUTDOOR OASIS

The three-season sunroom on the main floor has a fireplace to keep warm in the cooler months and windows that fully open to allow lake breezes in during the summer.



Design Tip:

Van Wie says she tries to get clients to break away from the constraints of choosing one design style.

"Blending styles, textures and materials is what creates balance, while focusing on one or two elements to carry throughout the home is what leads to a cohesive project in any home design. I refer to our design style as Midwest Modern. We take a traditional approach and modernize it, creating a timeless design." 🐾



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AN ENTERTAINMENT MECCA

Sarah and Joe Pavelski's vacation property is transformed with the addition of a secondary "home" that meets all their recreational needs.

By Shelby Rowe Moyer | Photography by Shanna Wolf



A man cave isn't an unusual wish-list item. Typically, it comes in the form of a basement or additional bedroom. But a whole other home? That takes it to the next level.

Of course, Sarah and Joe Pavelski's hangout spot next to their main vacation home serves as much more than that. The side-by-side properties on Lake Waubesa serve distinct purposes — the main dwelling is the family's vacation home with four bedrooms, 4½ bathrooms and a lower-level recreation room. The property next door is a multipurpose mecca for storage, entertainment and guest quarters.

The Pavelskis bought the main home in 2010, and it's the perfect retreat for the couple and their son. The pair met in high school in Iowa and both attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, so Madison is close to their hearts. The family splits their time between Madison and Dallas, Texas, where Joe plays in the National Hockey League for the Dallas Stars. Joe's NHL career has taken their family all over the country, so they

wanted to put down roots back in the Midwest, where they'd be closer to their families and friends, but also have access to top-notch hockey facilities.

The opportunity to buy the lot next door to their lake house came up a few years ago when their neighbors asked if they'd be interested in buying it.

"We had spoken about that with them in the past, and then they came to us and said they were ready," says Sarah. "We thought it'd be another five years before they came to us. It wasn't an issue of needing more space in our home, but we did need more storage and guest space."

The Pavelskis decided to go for it, allowing them to envision a complementary structure to their home, complete with a man cave for Joe. They moved the house originally located on the lot to a different site, and with the expertise of Dream House Dream Kitchens, built their ideal entertainment spot.

DREAM CLOUDS

- ← The drop ceiling panels with dimmable lights are known as "Dream Clouds," a specialty creation of Dream House Dream Kitchens. Strategically lowering the ceiling height in spots can make a room feel cozier.



The two-story structure has a double-deep garage that's mostly used for storage in the winter, and in the summer, it takes on a second life as a workout and hockey practice area. Also on the first floor is a mudroom, shower and sauna that can be accessed from the backyard; a fish cleaning station; and storage for Joe's recreational equipment.

The upstairs is outfitted as an entertainment suite for Joe that doubles as a lodge for guests — complete with a bedroom that sleeps six, a bathroom and fully functional kitchen.

"The way we were envisioning it was that it would definitely be Joe's hangout," Sarah says of the upper-level suite. "It started mainly with Joe wanting to have space for a golf simulator. He loves golf, and with the

MORE THAN A MUDROOM

- ← On the ground floor of the secondary home is an expanded mudroom with a roomy shower and sauna.

weather in Wisconsin, you can only do it for a certain amount of time during the year.”

A winding staircase brings guests up to a lounge equipped with a modern, industrial bar and two golf simulators. The walnut island, cabinetry and floating shelves were chosen to match the accents in their main house — but the rest of the fixtures are intentionally more masculine.

Dream House Dream Kitchens sales director Jerry Schmidt says they’ve never done a project quite like this one.

“It was fun to put together,” he says. “It’s almost like the garage playhouse that you want when you’re a little kid, but then you grow up and actually get to build it.”

While Dream’s staff was making Joe’s vision come to life for the upstairs lounge, they were also renovating the Pavelski’s main living space in their home next door.

Back in 2010, when they purchased the home, they had done some renovations. But by 2018, the Pavelskis realized they needed to do some reconfiguring of the kitchen and living space.

In the main house’s old layout, the oversized kitchen was taking up precious square footage, so Dream came up with a plan that maximized an open-concept layout so that the family had more room for entertaining.

“There was like 10 feet between the sink and the island [in the previous kitchen],” says Schmidt. “There was a lot of wasted space that wasn’t utilized.”

They added a walnut wood bar around the island with seating and a buffet to separate the kitchen and living room, which also gives them more countertop space when guests are over. The walnut panels on the ceiling, otherwise known as the company’s signature Dream Clouds, feature dimmable lights that create a warm, cozy atmosphere.

On the right side of the living room, large windows that looked straight into their neighbor’s house were swapped out for transom windows and a fireplace was added. Now, the family has more privacy — but they still have stellar lake views.

After owning the home for more than a decade and going through a couple of remodels, Sarah recommends living in a home for a while before making major changes.

“I’m a huge believer of using every part of your house and not having a ton of wasted space. You want a good feel of how you’ll use it,” she says. “Also, try not to get caught up in what’s pretty. Make sure you’re going to enjoy it, too. When it comes down to it, you still need to be able to use your home.” 🐾



ULTIMATE MAN CAVE

On the upper floor of the secondary home is Joe’s entertainment suite, complete with a bar, lounge and two golf simulators.





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A LITTLE BIT OF LOS ANGELES



Inspired by their vacation property in LA, Midwest natives Lori and Cory Wallman filled their new Lake Waubesa home with lots of greenery, midcentury modern design and cozy spaces.

By Shelby Rowe Moyer | Photography by Shanna Wolf

BARGAIN HUNTER

This Silestone countertop is perhaps Lori's proudest bargain find. Brand-new Silestone countertops — a combination of natural quartz and other raw materials — are expensive, so she searched everywhere for a sale, until she came across 10 sheets at a remnants store. The sheets were leftover materials from a recent sweep of commercial renovations. So, she got her dream kitchen counters for a steal.



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A BIT OF WHIMSY

The Wallmans created fun little nooks for the kids wherever they could, like this tent area on the second floor and the miniature playroom in the basement. Initially, the playroom under the stairs was marked for storage, but Lori thought it would be sweet to create this instead. She ordered the custom-made Dutch door from a playhouse company in North Carolina.



College sweethearts Lori and Cory Wallman were living in a small two-bedroom Madison home with their daughter, Vivien, when they decided that if they wanted to expand their family, they needed a bigger nest.

With two major remodels under their belt — their Madison residence and a vacation property in Los Angeles that was featured on an episode of HGTV's "House Hunters Renovation" — they felt they were up for the challenge of a new build.

Finding a buildable lot on the lake with a sunset view (and also within their budget) was challenge No. 1. The Wallmans were outbid on a few properties before securing one in 2017 — a vacant lot on the east bay side of Lake Waubesa.

"What sealed the deal is the capitol view," Lori says. "At night, we came out here and you



can see the capitol all lit up, and it was like, 'Oh my! This is amazing.'"

The original goal was to have the house built and be moved in by the time their son, Ty, was born. (They both laugh at this.) The design process took a lot longer than they expected, in part because they wanted their home to have a West Coast, midcentury modern appeal — and finding the materials that fit that aesthetic was difficult in the Midwest.

"It was definitely overwhelming," Cory says of the whole process. "But I think you overthink things. There are so many choices and you want to make the right decision, but there's probably 40 decisions that would look good."

Lori adds, "I'm an ultimate bargain hunter, too. If I see a light fixture in a magazine, I'll either find a replica that's less expensive or the same one on sale. I'll go to great lengths to get a good deal, so I think I made it twice as hard on us."

The Wallmans worked with the same Los Angeles architect — Tom Tostengard — who helped them remodel their vacation home in



THE ULTIMATE RETREAT

It's hard to pick a favorite spot, but the owner's bedroom and bathroom might be Lori's. It has the best views of the lake and an LA vibe with spiny plants, rattan accents and airy artwork.

SPA WORTHY

Lori's soaker tub is another bargain find — she got it on Wayfair for \$800. She thought she'd spend a lot of time relaxing here with a glass of wine and a great view. The reality, though? The kids use it the most.



The Wallmans decided to go bold on the home's exterior, using Sherwin-Williams' Grizzle Gray and Tricorn Black.

The garage door is steel, painted to mimic the look of cedar.



Laurel Canyon. He drew up plans for the exterior, but also designed some interior features, like the midcentury modern metal divider in between the home's main entrance and the living room, as well as the TV wall, which mimics the sleek exterior of the home.

McFarland-based Urso Brothers built the home, and by the time they moved in, Ty was 1½ years old. The four-bedroom, 3½-bath home definitely matches the Wallmans' laid-back and creative personalities. The design style is a blend of midcentury modern, Scandinavian and coastal contemporary with tons of organic details — sprawling plants and nubby succulents, macrame wall hangings and wood accents.

And many of the elements are personal to them. The artwork is reminiscent of their Los Angeles home and trips they've taken. Lori's dad, a retired logger, made a few pieces for them, including a live-edge shelf for Lori's soaker tub. And, there are cute little nooks for the kids to play in.

"The best part of living there is being surrounded by nature," says Lori. "The lake brings so much wildlife year-round, and we love to spend time on the lake exploring. We are so happy to be raising our family here." 🐾





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Lake Days: Photojournalist Glenn Trudel captured this image of the Stuckey brothers circa 1980 playing on an inner tube on Lake Mendota at James Madison Park.

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