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With some of the elements already in place, Calla McNamara was tasked with creating a sense of cohesion and introducing a little edge

A PERFECT FIT

BY MINDY PANTIEL | PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEFF McNAMARA



Laid Back In the living room, a Flex Modular sofa and side tables from Resource Furniture form an arrangement that accommodates both conversation and watching television, the latter concealed by the painting. The chair is from Design Within Reach, the rug is Patterson Flynn Martin, Diane James provided the trees, and McNamara designed the shelving unit. See Resources.





New Connection
 (THIS PAGE) Part of the overall renovation, a breezeway now links the main house to the garage. The Katie Acorn pendant is by Thomas O'Brien for Circa Lighting.
Pool View (OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP TO BOTTOM) Outside, the RH table and chairs are ideal for alfresco dining. Inside, the homeowner's personal sanctuary features twin sofa loungers from Resource Furniture, a Woven Concepts rug, and Wireflow Lighting by Vibia. See Resources.



THE DAY that interior designer Calla McNamara arrived on the scene of a Greenwich home renovation most of the construction had been completed, but the interiors were still far from the finish line. According to the designer, many of the furnishings had been selected and most of the finishes were in place, but there were several loose ends and an overall lack of cohesion. She likened the task ahead to solving a puzzle. "Like most renovations, some of the pieces were already there. But we had to reimagine the space, incorporating new and existing elements to complete the picture," McNamara says.

The owner, a single mother with a teenaged daughter, wanted to preserve the classic architecture while introducing a little edge to the overall ambience. "The homeowner wears cowboy boots and drives a black Raptor pick-up truck. She did not want a standard 'mom in Connecticut' house," McNamara says. In accordance, the classic shingle-style residence had already been painted a dark color, which gave it distinction and brought the surrounding property and pool into focus. Similarly on the inside, the black window frames take a back seat to the views, while items like the black custom metal fireplace in the living room constructed by builder Zibi Surowiec of Kramer Lane Construction initiated the requisite edge.

Taking her cues from the rich, dark hue, McNamara designed ebony-colored display shelving for the living room and reworked the existing modular sofa into a more interesting seating arrangement. "I avoided the more typical L-shaped sectional set up and totally reoriented the entire room," says the





Kitchen Magic (THIS PAGE) Veronica Campbell from Deane, Inc. kept things traditional with a combination of crisp white recessed perimeter cabinets and wire-brushed oak on the island. See *Resources*.



designer, who added a modern powder-coated metal coffee table and a sleek wood-frame chair to the mix.

The black accents continue in the family room where a custom dark stained low-slung walnut coffee table contrasts with an existing light-toned upholstered sofa. She also kicked things up a notch in the dining room where the curved navy leather chairs and a glass table are joined by new black drapes, which add warmth and tie back to the home's other dark elements.

Originally, a pair of very 21st-century octagonal pendant fixtures lit the dining space, but McNamara determined one was sufficient and she reconfigured the second one to hang in the salon. Designated as an intimate space where the owner could read or have coffee with a friend, the latter features two cleaned-lined leather chaises perched on metal frames.

Meanwhile Veronica Campbell of Deane, Inc. took the lead on the kitchen redesign, which claims a slab of white statuary marble with spectacular veining as its centerpiece. "The owner didn't want to see the stove hood, so we designed cabinets with wire fronts to hide the blower and introduced oil-rubbed-bronze hardware to help add to the rustic look," says Campbell, who combined painted white cabinets on the perimeter with wire-brushed stained oak cabinets on the island. "The dark and light colors are more eclectic and along with the metal, there's a good layering of textures."

Dine-In Delight In the dining room (TOP), Boheme chairs from Resource Furniture surround a table from the homeowner's collection. The lighting is Wireflow by Vibia, and Chris Upholstery fabricated the drapes. **Simple Accessories** (RIGHT) In response to the existing bold powder room wallpaper, the designer introduced an unadorned mirror and a woven pendant. See *Resources*.



Family Gathering (THIS PHOTO) A Square Line sofa from Resource Furniture dominates one side of the long, narrow family room. The pillows and throw are from Lillian August, the custom coffee table is through Knock on Wood, and the rug is through Woven Concepts. See Resources.



Art Collection (ABOVE) Much of the artwork, including in the salon, was reframed for a more modern look. Lighting is Wireflow by Vibia. **Formal Entry** (BELOW) The bench in the foyer is from Blackcreek Mercantile & Trading Co.; the pendant lighting is from Circa Lighting; and the rug is from Woven Concepts. See Resources.



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The owner's equestrian background and love of all things equine is evident in much of the artwork, and the designer strategically placed key horse-themed images in the family room and office. In the kitchen, an antler chandelier is a whimsical Western nod.

Perhaps the most challenging space was the oversized master bedroom, where the platform bed looked adrift in a sea of white walls. “The room felt massive,” says McNamara, who took inspiration from the blue velvet bed frame and wrapped the bed and a large curved window in deep blue-gray built-ins, painted the barn-wood fireplace the same color, and added a linen sofa in a similar tone. Here and throughout the house, the designer's abilities to reconfigure, reorient and rearrange resulted in all the puzzle pieces coming together in a relaxed and welcoming cohesive whole. ✨

Sweet Suite In the master bedroom, the Indy bed by Resource Furniture is topped with Matteo bedding. McNamara designed the expanse of built-ins that wrap the room and encompass the sofa from RH Modern. The rug is from Patterson Flynn Martin. See *Resources*.

