

# Newport Beach Style Makers

BY MICHELLE GARRIDO AND LAUREN SIMON | PHOTOS BY KRI SADO

THROUGH THE YEARS, NEWPORT BEACH HAS EVOLVED FROM A QUIET BEACH COMMUNITY into a sophisticated style epicenter without sacrificing its casual good nature. Residents of this coastal paradise have a sense of laid-back luxury that's evident in fashion, refined taste and, of course, homes. A home in Newport Beach is not just a structure—it's a lifestyle. Each home in Newport contributes to the charisma of one of America's most beautifully appointed real-estate hot spots. Here, we celebrate those who take houses to the next level: They're the true style makers of Newport Beach. These are the architects and interior designers who take the concept of a structure and make it a cherished place to come home to.

**BARCLAY BUTERA**  
*Spreading Newport Beach Style from Coast to Coast*

**B**arclay Butera is one of the hippest, most sought after and most successful interior designers around, with work featured prominently in celebrity mansions and upscale homes from coast to coast. But no matter how far Barclay travels, he is never far from his Newport Beach roots, which he says have played a key role in his design aesthetic.

"In particular, the indoor-outdoor living style of Newport is very much how I live and how I love to design," he says. "I am well-known for living at the beach and bringing that aesthetic to the rest of the country. Even in the Hamptons, I'm known as the Newport designer who brings in the California-fresh look. I love that I'm able to incorporate my Newport sensibilities into any kind of lifestyle design from the city to the mountains."

The son of Corona del Mar interior designer Karen Butera, Barclay got his start working for his mother's firm before he set out on his own in 1993. Since that time, his company has expanded from interior design to manufacturing upholstery, case goods, textiles, pillows, rugs and accessories. The Barclay Butera Collection is sold through retail showrooms in Newport Beach, Los Angeles and Park City, Utah, as well as more than 300 retailers and showrooms nationally. Barclay also offers a more price-sensitive brand called Barclay Butera Lifestyle, which includes a new line of natural jute, sisal and sea grass wall-to-wall floor coverings, area rugs, lighting and occasional pieces.

"Newport has given me an opportunity to grow my business,

give back to the community, experiment and mature my tastes; and my retail showroom allows me to share what I have developed, as well as provide a gathering space for the community," he says.

Barclay's Newport Beach influence can be seen most notably in his designs inspired by a nautical theme—sea blues and crisp whites, pillows decorated with anchors and lighthouses, schooners and shells. Newport Beach style, he says, is about a luxurious yet relaxed lifestyle that centers on the harbor.

"We have a sense of sophistication, but it's about relaxed living and taking advantage of the indoor-outdoor opportunities," he says. "The style is focused on living around water—boating or other ocean-related activities, and the incredible harbor views taking in all of Newport. There are a variety of homes, lots of character, and they embrace color, whether it be the signature blue and white approach or chocolate and tangerine."

As much as he has been influenced by Newport Beach, Barclay says he hopes to bring his wealth of experiences in other places to bear on the products and services he provides to his longtime local clientele.

"Everyone has their own tastes," he says, "but I think the change here is the same as everywhere right now. We are living in a different environment. We are nesting and enjoying our homes more. What I try to do is bring my experiences in New York, Las Vegas, Miami, Paris, China and even Los Angeles to Newport as my contribution to changing and augmenting the style."—LS



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