

True story: We  
went to Nashville  
and built this  
house from the  
ground up.



photographer DAVID A. LAND  
writer & producer CARISHA SWANSON  
stylist ROBERT RUFINO  
builder CASTLE HOMES

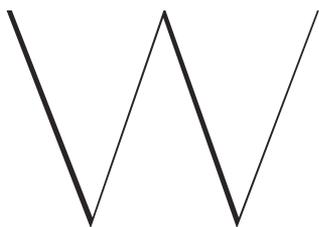


Then, we asked a team of forward-thinking designers to craft its rooms with a family's total joy in mind.

Turn to see what happens when you build the dream. ➔

Fabricut's Sure Strip wallpaper is easy to reposition during installation.





**WE ALL THINK ABOUT WHAT WE SHOULD BE DOING TO OUR** homes—but what if your home could do more for *you*? If it could draw you in, activate all your senses, make you feel happier from the moment you open the door? Welcome to *House Beautiful's* Whole Home Concept House, our 6,201-square-foot haven in Nashville that we built with Castle Homes and Wellness Within Your Walls. The idea was simple: Ask 14 designers from around the country to create spaces in which every design element has a purpose, and every room evokes a feeling. The result is more than a home—it's an experience that brings you joy, energy, calm, and focus. And it will help you understand how to make your own home work harder, better, and more beautifully than it ever has. ■



## 1. The Foyer & Living Room • BY VERN YIP

Walk into your home, and you should feel instantly at ease. That's why Vern Yip, the Atlanta-based designer and television personality who tackled the entry and living room, focused on livability as much as looks: **"Nobody wants to live in a museum where everything is so precious,"** he says. "We don't live like that today." The two-story foyer was wrapped in a dragon-themed wallpaper, but he paired it with a quieter—and *wipeable*—vinyl shagreen in the living room next door. A supersize 15-foot sectional features a chaise on both ends, and is covered in one of Yip's fabrics that can withstand boisterous children, wine-slinging adults, and playful pets. "I've literally taken a black Sharpie to this fabric. You can remove anything from it," he says. Even the entry table, console, and coffee tables, done in a patented finish, are party-ready: "You don't need coasters!" says Yip.

**Lighting:** [Circa Lighting](#). **Furniture, wallcoverings, and fabrics:** [Fabricut](#). **Tables:** [Aronson Woodworks](#). **Accessories:** [Oly](#). **Art:** [Jackson Fine Art](#). **Rugs:** [Milliken](#).



**It's Three Tables in One!**

After multiple sketches, Chenault and Ed James created a dining-table base called Boomerang that can be adjusted to coffee-table height, and separated into two square tables instead of one. A removable custom ping-pong net makes the room the most versatile ever.



## 2. The Dining Room • BY CHENAULT JAMES

Other than on holidays, a traditional dining room doesn't see a lot of action, which is why Kentucky-based designer Chenault James reinvented the concept. Her husband, Ed, of Four Board Woodworks, crafted a shape-shifting table with three distinct uses. **"I wanted a table that could function for dining and ping-pong, but also convert to separate coffee tables,"** says James. **"It was a big ask!"** The leather net pops on when it's game time, and the table can divide into two for card games—or cocktails, thanks to a well-stocked vintage bar cabinet.

**Lighting:** [Circa Lighting](#). **Wallpaper:** [Trustworth Studios](#). **Curtain fabrics:** [Schumacher](#). **Table:** [Four Board Woodworks](#). **Chairs:** [Bunakara](#). **Settees:** [Chairish](#), in [Ferrick Mason](#) fabric. **Art:** Heather Lancaster. **Rug:** [Nashville Rug Gallery](#). **Trim paint:** [Benjamin Moore](#).



There's a phone-charging pad hidden right here.



1



2

Woof!



3



### 3. The Kitchen • BY MATTHEW QUINN

When dreaming up a new kitchen, it's tempting to focus on the "pretty bits": cabinet colors, quartz versus natural stone surfaces, hardware finishes. But kitchen-and-bath expert Matthew Quinn starts with what's practical. "I obsess over saving people time—because time equals luxury," he says. **"In this kitchen, I focused on saving steps: from the garage to the fridge, from the dishwasher to the cabinet. It all adds up."** An easy-clean quartz countertop is paired with a wood surface that has a charging pad built right in (meaning no tangled cords ruining your clean kitchen). Even the right appliances can save you time: "If you have a refrigerator that really preserves your food," he points out, "you'll make fewer runs to the grocery store."

*Left: Lighting:* [Circa Lighting](#). *Hood:* [Francois & Co.](#) *Cabinets:* [Downsview Kitchens](#).

*Hardware:* [Rocky Mountain Hardware](#). *Fixtures:* [Kohler](#) and [Kallista](#).

*Countertops:* [Caesarstone](#) (quartz) and [Grothouse](#) (wood). *Paint:* [Benjamin Moore](#).

*Stools:* [Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams](#). *Window treatments:* [Thibaut](#). *Pantry, below: Mesh:*

[Architectural Grille](#). *Microwave drawer:* [Signature Kitchen Suite](#). *Tile:* [AKDO](#).

*All accessories:* [Williams Sonoma](#).



#### The Details

1. The 18" wine column by [Signature Kitchen Suite](#) has two zones, so favorite bottles will keep at the perfect sipping temperature.
2. A custom dog bed wrapped in [Thibaut](#) indoor/outdoor fabric is a dream spot for any scraps-loving pet.
3. Unlike a traditional range, [Signature Kitchen Suite's](#) 48" Dual-Fuel Pro comes with a combo convection-steam oven that locks in moisture while delivering a crispy outside.



These side tables are actually bar carts!



## 4. The Master Bedroom

BY JACKSON PAIGE INTERIORS

**“This is the parents’ retreat, a place to pull the curtains and read, meditate, or hide from the kids!”** says designer Kristine Paige Kamenstein of the master bedroom. Her goal, accordingly, was to evoke a restorative feeling: that of lying in the grass and watching the clouds go by. Sunny yellow accents are grounded by a wallcovering that depicts cranes in flight (“Who wouldn’t want to wake up in the clouds?” she points out) in a sophisticated gray scale. And a built-in window seat—complete with floor-to-ceiling drapery panels for aforementioned hiding—frames a private view into the backyard.

**Wallcovering:** [Phillip Jeffries](#). **Bed:** [Lee Industries](#). **Bedding:** [Matouk](#).

**Lighting:** [Circa Lighting](#). **Rug:** [Woven](#). **Tables:** [Serena & Lily](#). **Window trim:** [Samuel & Sons](#).

**Window seat:** [G&P Custom Cabinets](#). **Mattress:** [Stearns & Foster](#).



## 5. The Master Bathroom

BY RICHARD ANUSZKIEWICZ

Your first stop in the morning and the last before bed, a master bath should be a place of rejuvenation—ideally one where you don't have to think. So for this corridor-turned-spa, kitchen-and-bath designer

Richard Anuskiewicz installed a programmable 12-piece showerhead, rainfall, and body jet system (featuring Bluetooth-enabled music) to snap you to attention in the morning or help you wind down after a workout.

**“There’s no need for the spa,”** he says. “Everything in here is light and bright, so it immediately feels relaxing.”

Plenty of storage reduces clutter, and therefore stress: On either side of the air jet-equipped tub are matching campaign vanities, each with an abundance of drawers to keep the counters clear.

**Fixtures:** [Kohler](#). **Countertops:** [Caesarstone](#). **Tile:** [Traditions in Tile and Stone](#). **Hardware:** [Matthew Quinn Collection](#).  
**Lighting:** [Circa Lighting](#). **Cabinetry:** [Downsview Kitchens](#). **Mirrors:** [Architectural Grille](#). **Curtain fabric:** [Thibaut](#).



## 6. The Media Room • BY MODERN REMAINS

In most homes, movie night is the most important night of the week—which makes a media room one of the most important in the house. But “a media room doesn’t have to focus solely on the television,” says Lauren Moore of Nashville-based trio Modern Remains. **“We wanted to design a space where you can tuck away with a book, gather with the family, or have movie night.”** A platform fits two back-to-back chaises, so their occupants can see over the leather sofa that’s housed in a custom wood surround. Floor-to-ceiling drapery panels can be shut during showtime or opened for less intimate affairs. And just outside, a cozy stair landing serves as an additional hangout space.

**Lighting:** [Circa Lighting](#). **Sofa:** [Stressless](#). **Sofa surround:** [Reinhardt Restoration](#).  
**Bookcase:** [Five String Furniture](#). **Paint:** [Benjamin Moore](#). **Chaises:** [Design Industry by Grant Trick](#).  
**Art:** William McLure, Jack Spencer.



### The Details

1. [LG](#)'s HomeBrew puts craft beers on tap, and it's sleek enough to leave on the countertop.
2. To showcase reading material, the team added an easel by the window, filled with art books.
3. Wrapped in [Caesar-stone](#) quartz, the fireplace warms up the room when movie night (thanks to this 77" [LG](#) television) ends.





## 7. The Kids' Rooms

BY AMY BERRY

Children are drawn to places where their imaginations can run wild; their bedrooms should be no exception.

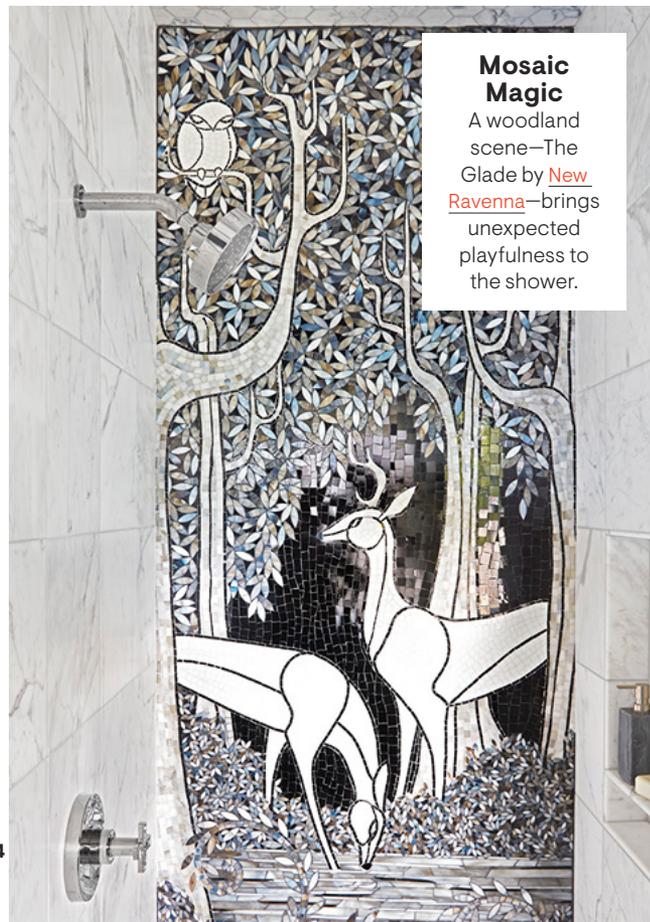
Dallas-based designer Amy Berry had this in mind when she wrapped the boy's room in a mural of the Virginia countryside, and the girl's in a French blue toile.

**"I thought of it as: How will they remember this when they grow up?"** A traditionalist at heart, Berry went for classic motifs with staying power: "I imagined the sister as being older than her brother, so I wanted her room to be more sophisticated: a chaise for reading, a secretary for working, and a great bed," says Berry. The boy's room features less precious pieces—and fewer of them, so there is room to play.

Above: **Wallpaper:** [Mural Sources](#). **Rug:** [Dash & Albert](#). **Bed:** [Amy Berry Home](#) with [Fermoie](#) fabric. **Bedding:** [Pine Cone Hill](#).  
 Right: **Rug:** [Stark](#). **Fabric:** [Fabricut](#). **Bed and tables:** [Amy Berry Home](#). **Bedding:** [Lenora by Dina Yang](#). **Lamp shades:** [Fermoie](#).

### Mosaic Magic

A woodland scene—The Glade by [New Ravenna](#)—brings unexpected playfulness to the shower.

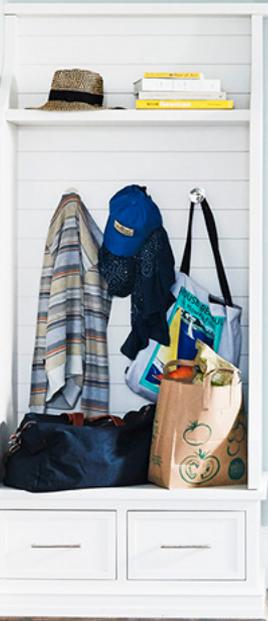




### All Things Cushioned

To create a timeless look, Berry used blue-and-white fabrics for pillow-like surfaces all over the room: The headboard, chaise, and even the walls are upholstered. Fabric lampshades complete the look.







## 8. The Mudroom & Bathroom • BY CASTLE HOMES

The first thing you do when you walk into your home? Drop everything, literally. The ideal mudroom always looks put-together no matter how many purses, coats, and bags are deposited there. Directly off the garage and side entrance, this one by the Castle Homes design team has two full peg-and-bench units for storing belongings, and it's conveniently equipped with a laundry zone so kids can pop their own dirty jerseys right into the machine. **“There’s no need to lug dirty sports gear or pet toys all over the house,”** says vice president Heather Looney. Just upstairs, lead designer Joy Huber took cues from the nearby music room to design a bathroom that’s “artful, funky, and fun,” starring a wall of large-format marble tile.

Opposite: **Paint:** [Benjamin Moore](#). **Washer and dryer:** [LG](#). **Lighting:** [Circa Lighting](#). **Chair:** [Palecek](#). **Door handle:** [Rocky Mountain Hardware](#). Above: **Tiles:** [The Tile Shop](#). **Fixtures:** [Kohler](#). **Surfaces:** [Caesarstone](#).

This internet-famous  
ombré wallpaper  
is like a sunrise right  
inside the office.





## 9. The Office • BY DANIELLE ARPS

“Creative people need to move around,” says Danielle Arps, founder of the buzzy firm Dani Arps, who typically spends her days designing offices for New York City start-ups (we’re talking 20,000-square-foot spaces). Her first step towards a clutterless home office with room to stretch? Eliminate the desk. **“Most files are stored digitally, so bulky office furniture with tons of storage isn’t necessary,”** she explains. Instead, Arps favors large work tables that are perfect for meetings, and lounge-like seating for closer convos. By placing comfy chairs together around a little coffee table, “a secondary work area can be achieved, even in a small space,” she says.

**Furniture:** [Industry West](#). **Wallcovering:** [Calico](#). **Window treatments:** [The Shade Store](#).  
**Accessories:** [Favor](#). **Planters:** [The Sill](#). **Paint:** [Benjamin Moore](#).

## 10. The Music Room • BY FORBES + MASTERS

If you have a passion, make room for it. For this space tucked above the garage—the kind that so often goes underutilized—the Atlanta-based Forbes + Masters had a vision: **“We’re in Music City! What better way to use a bonus room than to turn it into a listening lounge?”** says Monet Masters. She and her partner, Tavia Forbes, chose furnishings that felt collected over time and deliberately 1970s-inspired: a modern shag carpet, a houndstooth sofa, and even sound-dampening wallpaper. “The ceiling paper felt a little trippy, which we loved, and the suede-like wallcovering reminded us of old-school speakers,” says Forbes, whose father crafted a storage unit to house a massive collection of vinyl. “This is the room where you just want to chill out.”

**Furnishings:** [Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams](#). **Wallpaper:** [Arte](#). **Ceiling paper:** [Mitchell Black](#). **Record dividers:** [Architectural Grille](#). **Lighting:** [Circa Lighting](#). **Black swivel chair:** [Showroom 58](#).





Who needs acoustic tiles when you've got sound-softening wallcovering?





## 11. The Back Porch

BY BARCLAY BUTERA

One of the best things about living in a house—as opposed to a comparably sized apartment—is spending at-home time outside. To create this complete outdoor living space, Newport Beach, California, designer Barclay Butera chose coral, white, and blue powder-coated finishes for the furniture, then layered them with hard-wearing outdoor fabrics in a range of patterns. **“There’s nothing wrong with buying an outdoor set, but add some personality,”** says the designer. Another trick: mixing real and faux outdoor plants. “Silk plants look so realistic now, and you don’t ever have to worry about watering them!” says Butera, which means more time actually lounging outside with a cocktail.

**Furnishings:** [Castelle](#). **Fabrics:** [Kravet](#). **Outdoor kitchen:** [Lynx](#). **TV:** [LG](#). **Rug:** [Jaipur Living](#). **Umbrella:** [California Umbrella](#). **Accessories:** [Napa Home & Garden](#).

### A Compact Kitchen

Thanks to this [Lynx](#) grill, pizza oven, and fridge, there’s no reason to go inside once the patio party starts.



