

Sharon's

DECOR | GARDEN | TRAVEL

august | september | 2014

# H**o**d

home by design magazine™

**COLOR CUES**  
transform your decor with  
a fresh color palette

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Bring a splash of color to your dinner table with roasted heirloom cherry tomatoes, featured in a recipe for caprese salad.



# H<sup>b</sup>d

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**REVERSIBLE ORANGE AND NATURAL PEACE/LOVE POP THROW PILLOW**  
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# tangerine dream!



In the grand palace gardens of Versailles, the orangery was a favorite of legendary "Sun King" Louis XIV. His beloved citrus trees flourished there, providing the royal family and guests with ripe fruit all year long. This microwave- and dishwasher-safe serving bowl pays tribute to the orangeries of France with intricate artwork of oranges.

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Bring a fresh scent to any room in your home. This candle, presented in an orange glass vessel, introduces garden scents of juicy mandarin oranges and papayas plucked to their ripeness, in addition to lush greens, lemon water, and a hint of clementine.

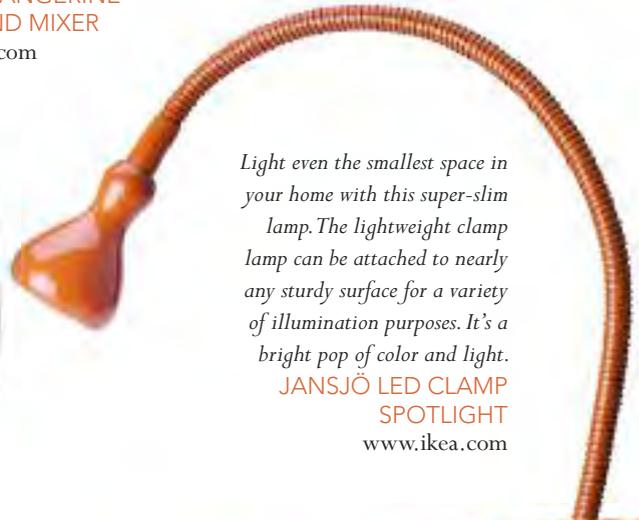
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*The iconic KitchenAid mixer is now offered in a fresh citrus color. It looks great, and works like a dream. This dependable and efficient appliance has ten mixing speeds and comes with a five-quart, stainless-steel mixing bowl for all your mixing needs.*

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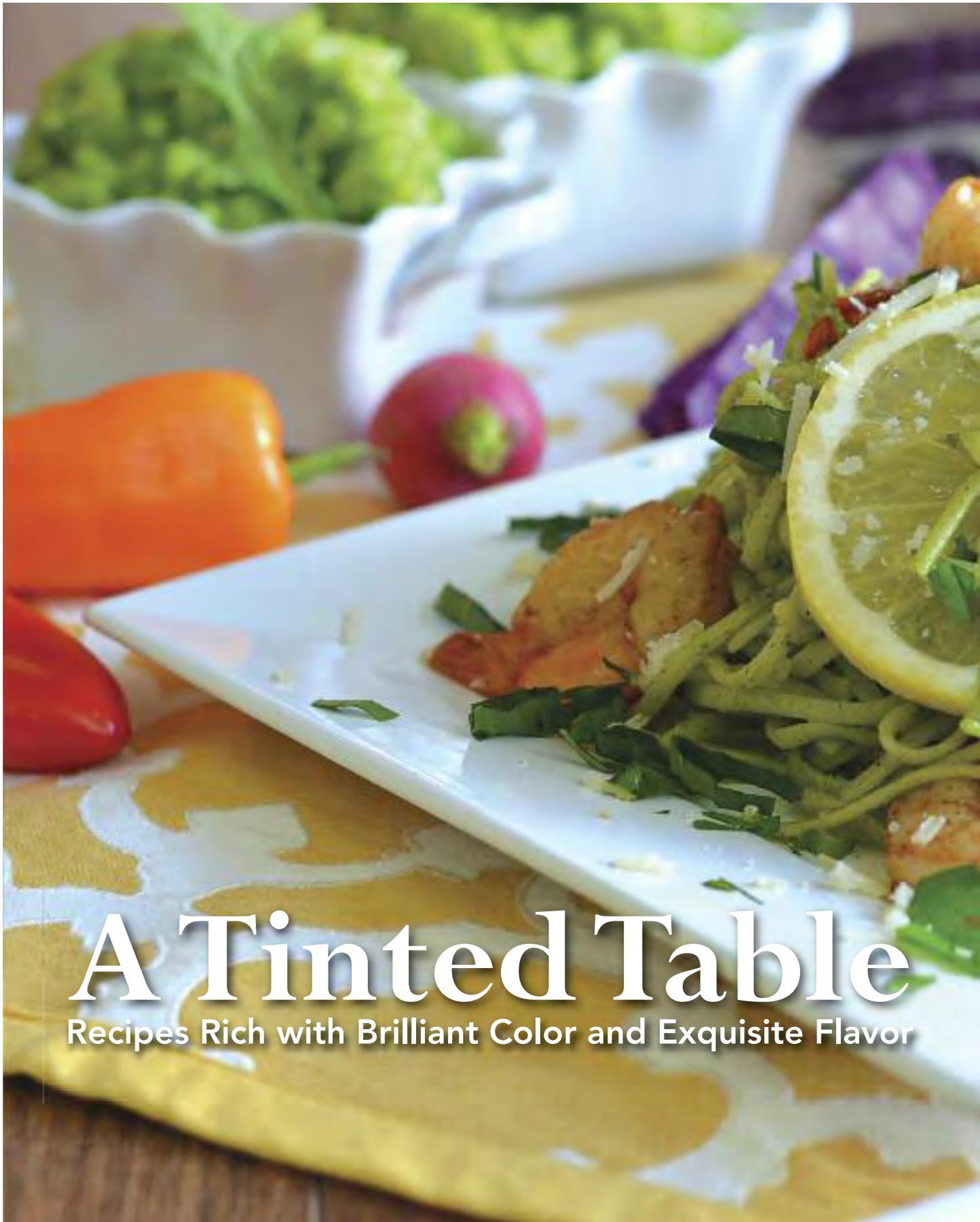
*This orange-shaped pinch bowl is perfect for holding spices or serving small snacks, and it brightens up any tabletop. Made of durable earthenware and featuring a vivid glaze, this petite dish pairs whimsical design with everyday usability.*

**FIGURAL ORANGE PINCH BOWL**  
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*Traditionally, outdoor furniture is made in neutral or primary colors. So this handwoven chair is an unexpected treat. Natural-look synthetic rattan woven over a sturdy metal frame makes for casual all-weather comfort, indoors or out. The chair is sized for patio or porches, is stackable for easy storage, and should be topped with a cushion for ultimate comfort.*

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# A Tinted Table

Recipes Rich with Brilliant Color and Exquisite Flavor



There is nothing more pleasing to the eye or enchanting to the taste buds than a table set with an array of colorful, fresh food. The rich, deep hues of color can restore our health and prevent illness, while creating a joyful vision that delights our senses.

This is the time of year that colorful food abounds. And it's the perfect time to enjoy these beautiful recipes with friends and family, or savor quietly on a warm and breezy day.

*Recipes and Photographs by Karista Bennett*



**Smoked Goat Cheese  
Stuffed Peppadew Peppers**

## SMOKED GOAT CHEESE STUFFED PEPPADEW PEPPERS

*Ever heard of a Peppadew pepper? A slightly sweet and slightly spicy pickled pepper that originated in South Africa. They've become popular in North America and can now be found in most mainstream markets and delis. Although these bright red peppers are delicious all by themselves, they're even more inviting when filled with smoked goat cheese. Gorgeous and rich in color, they make a lovely addition to your cocktail or appetizer table.*

**Serves 8 to 10**

6–8 ounces smoked chèvre (goat cheese). If you can't find smoked goat

cheese, a local soft goat cheese will still be fantastic.  
1–2 tablespoons heavy cream, if needed  
24–30 Peppadew peppers  
(often found in jars)  
chopped toasted walnuts or pecans  
for garnish (optional)

Either by hand or in a food processor, add the chèvre and a tablespoon of heavy cream. Pulse until the cheese is smooth enough to pipe into a pastry or ziplock bag. Adding a little more heavy cream if needed. Be sure not to add too much cream or you will dilute the flavors of the cheese.

Set a glass on the counter and fit it with

a pastry or ziplock bag. This will make it much easier to fill. Fill the bag with the cheese. If using a ziplock, once you remove it from the glass, cut off one corner to pipe the cheese.

Drain the Peppadews. If any of them won't stay upright, just slightly slice a tiny bit off the ends so they will sit nicely on your platter.

Pipe the cheese into each of the Peppadews and set them on a large white platter. Sometimes the peppers are cranky and won't stand up, but that's ok. They will still look

Roasted Heirloom Cherry  
Tomato Caprese Salad



absolutely stunning on a large or long white platter.

Top with chopped nuts if desired and set on your beautifully decorated table to be happily eaten by your guests.

## ROASTED HEIRLOOM CHERRY TOMATO CAPRESE SALAD

*Nothing says summer like colorful, ripe, and juicy tomatoes. As I walk through our local farmers' market, I'm enchanted by all the delicious color and variety of summer tomatoes; however, toward the end of the summer season, these little lovelies aren't quite as sweet. Roasting the cherry tomatoes intensifies the delicate sweetness and adds enticing flavor to this salad. This beautiful recipe combines the spicy flavor of garlic and the sweet, peppery flavor of fresh basil with creamy fresh mozzarella. Roasted heirloom cherry tomatoes perfectly complement the salad ingredients—making a decadent end-of-summer salad.*

### Serves 4 to 6

2 pints heirloom cherry tomatoes  
4 tablespoons olive oil  
salt and fresh cracked black pepper to taste  
1 container marinated or plain Ciliegine Mozzarella (small fresh mozzarella balls)  
1 clove garlic, finely diced  
pinch of red pepper flakes  
1 handful fresh basil, chopped or chiffonade (instructions follow)  
squeeze of fresh lemon

Preheat the oven to 425F.

Toss the tomatoes in 1–2 tablespoons olive oil and then spread them out on a lined baking sheet. Season them with a sprinkling of salt and freshly cracked black pepper.

Roast them in the oven for about 8 to 10 minutes, just enough time to allow some of the sugars to caramelize, but not completely soften the tomatoes.

While the tomatoes are roasting, drain the mozzarella balls and place them in a large bowl with the garlic, pinch

of red pepper flakes, half of the fresh basil and 1–2 tablespoons of olive oil. Toss to combine.

Once the tomatoes are done, let them cool for a few minutes and then gently fold them into the mozzarella mixture. Squeeze with a bit of fresh lemon.

Spread the salad on a platter or large serving plate. Season with a little more salt and pepper and garnish with the remaining fresh basil.

**To chiffonade basil:** Stack basil leaves one on top of the other until you have a nice stack. Roll like a cigar and then starting at one end make little slices. You'll end up with ribbons of basil called chiffonade.

## FRESH SPINACH, ARUGULA, AND LEMON RISOTTO

*Risotto is a popular Italian Arborio rice dish that pairs beautifully with an abundance of fresh ingredients. It can be simply prepared with sautéed shallots, white wine, and grated Parmesan, or layered with the many rich and enchanting flavors and colors of summer and autumn produce. This recipe models an impressive shade of green and boasts the distinct peppery taste of fresh arugula and the subtle grassiness of fresh spinach. It's then combined with a splash of fresh lemon, garlic cloves and olive oil. Bright in color, beautiful on the table, and happy on the palate.*

### Serves 4 to 6

1 cup fresh spinach, packed (1 used baby spinach)  
1 cup fresh arugula, packed (1 used baby arugula)  
2 cloves garlic, crushed  
2–3 tablespoons lemon juice  
¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil  
zest of one lemon  
salt and pepper to taste  
3 tablespoons butter  
1 shallot, finely diced  
2 cups Arborio rice  
½ cup dry white wine  
6 cups veggie broth, warmed  
½ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Combine the spinach leaves, arugula, garlic, lemon juice and olive oil in a food processor. Blend until coarsely chopped. Fold in the lemon zest. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

In a large saucepan, bring the broth to a simmer. Cover and keep warm over low heat.

Melt the butter in a heavy large pot over medium heat. Add the shallot and sauté until tender, about 5 minutes.

Add the rice and stir for about 2 minutes. Add the white wine and stir until absorbed, about 1 minute.

Stir in 1 cup of the warm broth and simmer until it is absorbed, stirring frequently. Cook until the rice is almost tender, adding broth ½ cup at a time and stirring often, allowing each addition to be absorbed before adding the next, about 20 minutes.

Stir in the spinach arugula mixture. Continue cooking, adding more broth ¼ cup at a time, until rice is creamy and tender, about 10 minutes longer.

Season the risotto with salt and pepper. Transfer to a bowl and sprinkle with the Parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.

## SHRIMP LINGUINE WITH FRESH ITALIAN HERB PESTO

*Nothing feels more decadent than a meal that is easily prepared, full of enticing flavors and looks lovely on the table. This dish achieves all those lush qualities, as well as utilizes the season's bounty. A combination of fragrant Italian herbs, fresh lemon, and the earthy sweet flavor of extra-virgin olive oil will delight the senses and satisfy the taste buds. During the summer months, I like to grill the shrimp on a skewer and then add to the pasta.*

### Serves 4 to 6

1 package (about 12–16 ounces) good

Fresh Spinach, Arugula,  
and Lemon Risotto



quality dried or fresh linguine, cooked according to package directions  
2 tablespoons clarified butter or ghee, more if needed  
1½ pounds large fresh shrimp, deveined and peeled just to the tail (keep the tail on as it's easier to prepare)  
salt and pepper to taste  
pinch of cayenne  
fresh grated Parmesan for garnish  
Pesto

**For the Pesto:**

1 packed cup fresh basil leaves  
¼ cup packed fresh Italian parsley leaves  
2-3 tablespoons fresh oregano leaves  
1 2-inch stalk fresh rosemary, leaves only  
1-2 cloves garlic  
2-3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice (adjust to taste)  
¼ cup Marcona almonds, skinless almonds, or almond slivers

¼ cup grated fresh Parmesan  
½ cup good quality extra-virgin olive oil  
zest of one lemon  
salt and pepper to taste

**Prepare the Pasta.**

Prepare the pesto. While pasta is boiling, place the pesto ingredients (except the olive oil, lemon zest, salt and pepper) in a blender, Vitamix, or food processor. Pulse the ingredients just until nicely incorporated. Then drizzle in the olive oil until the ingredients are a smooth puree. Fold in the lemon zest and season with salt and pepper to taste.

Prepare the Shrimp. In a large skillet over medium-high heat add the clarified butter. Season the shrimp with salt and pepper. When the butter is melted and very hot but not smoking, place each shrimp one at a time in the bottom of the pan. You may need to pan sear the shrimp in batches. Sear the shrimp on both sides, about 1 to 2 minutes per side. You will want the shrimp to be golden brown on the outside and opaque to the eye. Transfer the shrimp to a bowl and sprinkle with just a pinch of cayenne. This may seem tedious but shrimp cook quickly and pan-seared shrimp will add a lot more flavor to the dish.

Shrimp Linguine  
with Fresh Italian  
Herb Pesto



Toss the warm pasta with the pesto. Pour the pasta in a large serving bowl and layer the shrimp on top. Garnish with additional chopped Italian parsley and grated parmesan.

### STRAWBERRIES ROMANOFF

*Strawberries Romanoff is a simple yet lovely dessert of fresh strawberries and a sour cream sauce. Although easily prepared, the end result is vibrant in color and slightly sweet in flavor. There are many versions and interpretations, but this particular recipe happens to be the way my Mom prepared this lovely dessert when I was a child (sans the Grand Marnier). For the under-21 crowd, my Mom would lace the*

*sour cream with brown sugar and vanilla beans scraped from a fresh vanilla pod. She would ladle the sweet cream on a platter and serve it with a big bowl of strawberries for dipping. Here, I've listed a livelier version of Mom's recipe just for adults. A splash, or two, of Grand Marnier spikes the rich tasting sour cream and creates a decadent sauce for fresh summer strawberries. The bold red color of the strawberries mingles with the white of the sour cream and makes for an impressive and most delicious and refreshing summer dessert.*

**Serves 4 (this recipe can be doubled)**

1 cup sour cream  
3-4 tablespoons light brown sugar

½ vanilla bean, sliced and beans scraped out to use in the sour cream  
2 tablespoons Grand Marnier  
2-3 pints strawberries

Mix together the sour cream, brown sugar, vanilla bean, and Grand Marnier. Set aside.

### **Serve one of two ways:**

Slice fresh strawberries and place in four wine or martini glasses and then top with a dollop of sour cream sauce and serve. Or, ladle the sour cream sauce on a platter and place whole strawberries on top. Serve as a fun finger dessert.



Strawberries Romanoff



# The Best of Friends

Appreciate the Friendships You Have and Consider Those You Might Need

*Written by Ashley Gartland*

**People with rich social circles are said to live longer, have less stress in their lives, and be happier and more self-confident than individuals who try to fly through life solo. Is it any wonder then that you should be working to build strong friendships at every stage in your life?**

When it comes to friendships, quantity counts. (Evolutionary anthropologist Robin Dunbar suggests humans can juggle 150 stable social connections at a time and that, of those, roughly fifty of those relationships would be classified as good friends.) But it's not just the number of friends you have that matters. Turns out, you should heed the type of friends you have in your social circle as well.

Having a diverse, well-rounded group of friends provides you with a strong support system and a range of social interactions that will help you lead a happy and healthy life. For advice on what types of friendships you should cultivate, read on.

**THE CHILDHOOD BUDDY.** The friends you made while you were in grade school are worth keeping around. Longtime pals share memories that span decades and help you remember the good old days, which research suggests will boost your overall happiness in life. Fortunately, you don't have to let geographic boundaries stop you from reaping the rewards of this special relationship. If you no longer live near your childhood friends, just be sure to give them a call or send them an e-mail every few weeks to make certain you stay involved and interested in each other's lives as the years go by.

**THE CARETAKER.** You know the old saying, "Mom knows best"? Well, so does the caretaker in your group of friends. Let them dote on you because that's what a caretaker does best, and doing so benefits them just as much as it does you. Plus, you'll need him or her around to offer advice, bring soup over when

you're sick, and nurture you through the bad days, bad decisions, and bad breakups.

**THE MENTOR.** Think of this friend as your personal life coach. A friend who also serves as a mentor will pass on his or her wisdom and offer you the pep talks you need. (For this reason, they'll likely be older and more seasoned in the game of life than you are.) Utilize this relationship to get feedback and support when you are going through big life changes and in need of thoughtful and candid advice.

**THE WORK PAL.** When you spend forty hours (or more) at work each week, it makes sense to seek some companionship during your office hours. Avoid getting buddy-buddy with your boss so there isn't a conflict of interest when it is time for performance reviews and pay raises. Instead, seek out a colleague who is in a similar position as you and who shares some common interests as well. Whether you build your budding friendship by talking about sports and sitcoms or by chatting about life at the office, a workplace pal will make breaks, cafeteria lunches, and office parties much more enjoyable.

**THE ACTIVITY PARTNER.** Whether you're into racquetball, throwing pottery, or thrifting at antique malls, having a friend to share your hobbies with makes those activities more fun and more meaningful. If you have trouble finding someone who shares your interests, consider joining a group dedicated to your particular hobby. Who knows? Your new best friend might be the person doing downward dog on the yoga mat right next to yours. ■

## Top Tips for Meeting New Friends

Whether you're into racquetball, throwing pottery, or thrifting at antique malls, having a friend to share your hobbies with makes those activities more fun and more meaningful. If you have trouble finding someone who shares your interests, consider joining a group dedicated to your particular hobby. Who knows? Your new best friend might be the person doing downward dog on the yoga mat right next to yours.

**1 Say yes.** Skip the excuses and just say yes when someone invites you to an event, a gathering, or an activity—even if it isn't something you'd usually attend. You never know when or where you'll meet someone who'd make a perfect addition to your circle of friends

**2 Get out.** It's hard to meet friends when you are sitting at home binge watching episodes of *Homeland*. Give yourself the opportunity to meet new people by taking an art class, volunteering at a local hospital, or joining a gym.

**3 Spread the word.** Let your friends and family know you're in the market for new friends—especially if you've moved to a new city and need help making connections and setting up "blind dates" with potential friends.

# Pigments and Plants

Use Colors to Set the Mood in  
Your Garden

*Written by Catriona Tudor Erler*



**Color is a powerful force in the garden. It can soothe, excite, be restful, imbue energy, or make a space feel larger or smaller. Armed with a little knowledge and the willingness to engage in trial and error, you can create color combinations that set the exact tone you want in your private garden paradise.**

### HARMONIZE WITH COLOR COUSINS.

Hues next to each other on the color wheel, such as blue and violet, take on the properties of each other and blend. These monochromatic color schemes are generally most successful when you vary the flowers' scale and textures.

Sometimes monochromatic color theme gardens can go too far. The early-twentieth-century British garden maven Gertrude Jekyll wrote, ". . . people will sometimes spoil some garden project for the sake of a word. For instance a blue garden, for beauty's sake, may be hungering for a group of white lilies, or something of the palest lemon-yellow, but is not allowed to have it because it is called the blue garden, and there must be no other flowers."

### INSPIRED COMBINATIONS.

Complementary colors make a strong statement. Vincent van Gogh poetically described his love of color complements in an 1888 letter to his sister, Wilhelmina, "...there are colors which cause each other to shine brilliantly, which form a *couple*, which complete each other like man and woman." He suggested combining cornflowers, white chrysanthemums, and marigolds for a motif in blue and orange; heliotrope and yellow roses for a lilac and yellow motif; and poppies or red geraniums set among green leaves for a red and green combination.

British plantsman Christopher Lloyd encouraged the bold use of color to create excitement, an element he believed was essential to successful gardening. "Two colors may shout at each other," he wrote, "but they are shouting for joy."

He advocated using color contrasts because these have the most "pop." Lloyd suggested combining the purple flowering *Verbena bonariensis* with a red dahlia such as 'Grenadier,' adding the reddish foliage of *Canna indica* 'Purpurea' for

further emphasis. Blue and yellow is another classic contrast. Lloyd combined *Verbena bonariensis* with the yellow-green flowers of *Patrinia scabiosifolia*, and placed blue flowering *Iris siberica* against the chartreuse yellow foliage of Bowles sedge (*Carex elata* 'Aurea').

### WHITE AND GRAY.

A delicate spray of white flowers, such as baby's breath or *Crambe cordifolia* can create a sensation of shimmer in the garden, rather like white fairy lights strung in a tree. Beware: bold clumps of white tend to punch holes in the design, leaving a visual void. Use white to make colors appear brighter, giving them definition. In his novel *East of Eden*, John Steinbeck wrote, "Every petal of blue lupine is edged with white, so that a field of lupines is more blue than you can imagine."

Gray foliage helps to link disparate colors; however, not just any gray will work. Silvery grays tend to be too show-stopping, grabbing all the attention rather than being a silent partner. But blue-gray and plain gray are highly useful for bringing cohesion between two conflicting colors, and transitioning from one color scheme to another. Gray also is excellent to calm glare or harsh sunlight.

Seeing flowering plants side by side is a huge help in finding the right combinations. Walk around the garden with a newly purchased plant to find the right setting. At the garden center, place flowering plants next to each other to find the color and texture combinations that make your heart sing.

Placing plants for the best color combinations is a fine art that often relies on trial and error. But you can't go wrong by using your favorite color combinations to put a personal stamp on your garden. If you like it, it's right. ■

## Fool the Eye with Color

"Illusion is everything in a garden," opined San Diego landscape designer W.F. Sinjen. With a little good-natured *trompe l'oeil*, you can fool your eye into believing that the tiniest of gardens is spacious—or at least less cramped. Color is one of the tools landscape designers use to help pull off this trick.

Generally, warm colors such as yellow and red tend to come forward, and pastels and cool colors tend to recede. To visually enlarge your garden, put cool colors at the back, making it seem even farther away. Alternatively, you can make a large garden appear more intimate with hot tropical colors such as red and orange.



# Color.

**Color has the power to energize, inspire, and warm the soul.**

Waking up to just the right sunny shade might motivate a productive morning, while a cool tone might support restive sleep. The following home designs feature a variety of color combinations to suit your needs.



# a Beautiful Blend

Designer Lisa Sherry Breathes New Life into a Dated Dutch Colonial with Vibrant Hues

**For Lisa Sherry, it was a departure from the sophisticated, neutral aesthetic the High Point, North Carolina-based designer has become known for. Sherry's clients, who live in the upscale Myers Park neighborhood in Charlotte, North Carolina, had requested one thing: color. "[The clients] loved my style, but wanted a bit more color," she explains. "It's always a fun challenge to do something different."**

First, though, the dated Dutch Colonial needed major updating that consisted of keeping the original footprint but knocking down walls, expanding some spaces, and adding windows, not to mention overhauling the entire kitchen. With the help of kitchen designer Valerie Pressley and architect Greg Terry, Sherry transformed the entire downstairs—and the master bedroom and bathroom upstairs—into a sleek, modern space that doubles as a fantastic entertaining place and family-friendly area to unwind.

To marry her signature neutral aesthetic with the modern pops of color her clients requested, Sherry began with a base palette of white, gray, and black throughout the first floor. In the kitchen, driftwood-stained wood floors and sleek white cabinets are brought to life via a mirrored backsplash, a lavender chandelier, and one-time wood-finish counter stools, which were repainted a bold yellow. To add extra interest to the white cabinetry, Sherry added long, vertical gold cabinet hardware and black-and-gold inlay accents. A classic Carrera marble countertop finishes the look.

Down the hall in the living room, Sherry breathed new life into the once dark and dated

space with the updated white walls, metallic silver ceilings, and a dramatic antique mirrored wall across from the one-time red brick (but now white) fireplace. The addition of a simple custom-made sofa in linen complemented the blue cotton velvet tête-à-tête chaise along with blue glass accessories and colorful custom throw pillows, which provide instant color to the room. The homeowner's heirloom accent chair and low-lying card table and chairs proved to be the perfect balance to the newer pieces. "She had inherited a lot of cool pieces from an aunt, but we wanted to modernize them," says Sherry. By reupholstering the chairs in an updated coral pink-and-cream cut velvet zebra print, Sherry was able to not only modernize the pieces but add welcome pops of color to the room.

In the dining room, Sherry once again took advantage of the clients' existing pieces. She refinished the buffet in white lacquer, and added a tall decorative screen in lieu of artwork to create interest to the space. A custom-made curved banquette—"I love how it curves into the window," says Sherry—sits in front of the screen while French chairs hand-stamped with a Moroccan motif and a table the

The dining room furniture is a combination of the homeowners' reimagined pieces, and designer Lisa Sherry's custom creations.

WRITTEN BY **BLAKE MILLER**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **RON ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHY**





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: A mirrored backsplash and black-and-gold inlay on the cabinets coupled with the refinished counter stools in bold yellow create a sophisticated kitchen. In lieu of traditional table lamps on bedside tables, Sherry hung light fixtures from the ceiling. The screened-in porch is an extension of the interior, so Sherry kept with the sophisticated color palette and added an Oly table and an Ikea light fixture.



The long, rectangular space of the living room led Sherry to utilize space-saving elements such as the tête-à-tête chaise swathed in a sexy blue velvet and antique mirrored wall, which makes the room feel bigger.



## Keeping Up with Color

Designer Lisa Sherry weighs in on how to tastefully (and stylishly) incorporate color into your decor without overdoing it.

**1 Keep it neutral.** By using a neutral backdrop on the walls and floors, Sherry says you can easily add “pops of color in elements such as lighting, bar stools, pillows, and more.”

**2 Minimize color.** It seems counterintuitive but here’s why. “If a client wants color, I keep 80 percent neutral and add 20 percent in color,” says Sherry. “Too much becomes frenetic.”

**3 Think inexpensive.** “Have color be in your less expensive pieces like pillows, art, or textiles so when you tire of the color it’s not expensive to switch out,” advises Sherry.

homeowner found complete the dining area. A black lacquered ceiling brings interest to the space, says Sherry, adding that it also “makes it cozier and adds a bit of drama.”

Upstairs, Sherry kept with the same neutral color palette and brought in color via bed linens by Jonathan Adler. “There was a lot of wood in the furniture and on the floors,” she says. “I wanted the bedroom to feel cozy. They wanted it to feel sexy.” To add these elements to the room, Sherry upholstered the panel behind the bed and then layered it with a custom fabric headboard. To bring in more light, Sherry and architect Terry installed transom windows above the bed and heightened the existing windows. In place of traditional bedside lamps, Sherry added small chandeliers as a way of layering various design elements.

Though the home was once dated and dark, it’s now a place of light and color, something the homeowners desperately were seeking when they enlisted Sherry and her team of designers. “I have clients who have great taste,” explains Sherry. “And it’s hard for them to have a vision for a space as a whole. [The homeowners] love pattern and color . . . [they] trusted me to pull it all together.” ■



# Fearless Color

A Family Expresses Their Individuality with Color in This Manhattan Condo

**“I came out of a supermarket on the Upper West Side, looked up, and saw this beautiful building. I thought to myself, ‘If I had a client in that building, I’m sure they would be wonderful.’ I just had a really good feeling,” says Hilary Unger, owner of New York City–based Perianth Interior Design. The next morning, that thought became reality. A client called seeking a designer for a 5,500-square-foot condo in that very building. “It was unbelievable. They turned out to be a really wonderful family,” says Unger of the couple with two young children.**

With only finished floors and walls, the huge space was blank. Despite the empty space, the owners had specific ideas for each room. “They are in the entertainment business and wanted their rooms to be like theater vignettes,” says Unger. Some rooms display more drama than others, but the colors and items in each room were chosen with specific purposes in mind.

The owners knew what they wanted, but relied on Unger to create their vision. Color takes center stage in each room. Like characters in a play, some colors play supporting roles, while others are the stars. “I love color. It just has to be put in the right places,” she explains. “I look at the architecture first, and then consider what feeling we are trying to create. I base my color use on what the client is looking for.”

The family wanted traditional elegance in the public areas of the home, so the colors are subdued. In the foyer, the homeowners knew they wanted striped wallpaper; if something can be both elegant and fun, this grayish metallic paper accomplishes

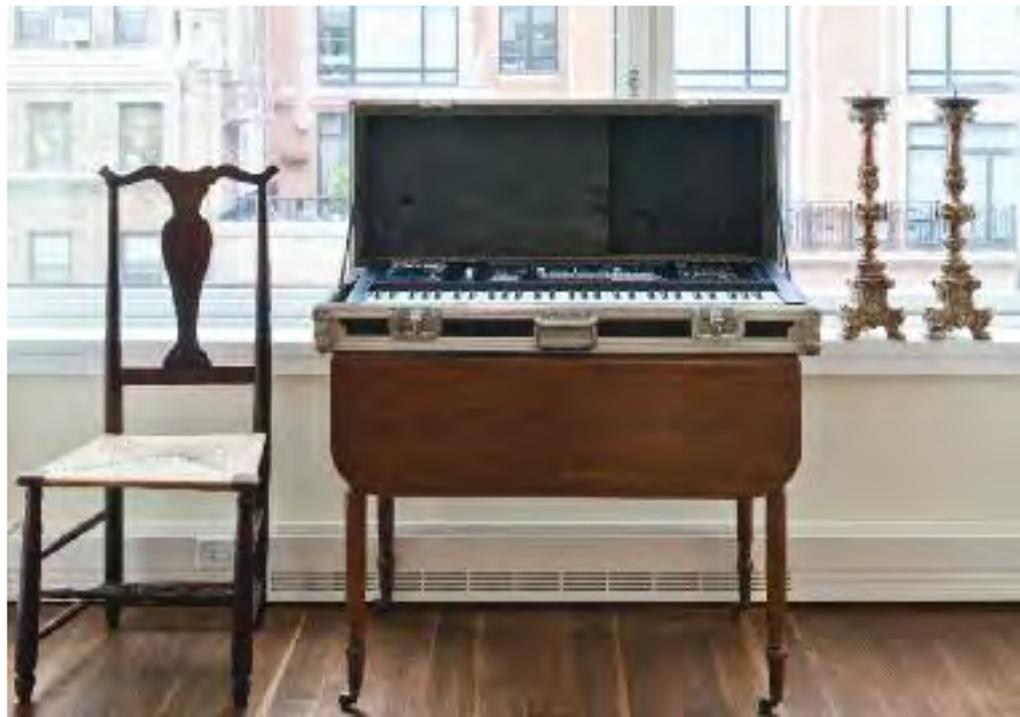
that task. The paper complements an heirloom chest that sits beneath a gold eagle mirror—another specific request of the homeowners.

The living room and dining room flow together with ease, and neutral walls allow colorful upholstery, artwork, and case goods to shine. A special artifact for the owners—singer Madonna’s first keyboard—holds a place of honor, and is flanked by a simple chair and two ornate candlesticks. A faux embossed leather coffee table centers the main seating arrangement and the persimmon colored chairs from the foyer appear here, too.

The same technique of repetition is used again as the chairs next to the game table are found in the dining room. Track lights on the royal blue ceiling shine down into a fishnet fixture dripping with crystals. The decorative finish of the plaster fireplace looks like limestone. Custom cabinets flank the fireplace and are one of Unger’s favorite pieces in the home. “I custom designed them to combine the qualities of the homeowners” says Unger. “She’s more French and feminine; he’s more biker.” Unger

Steel, mahogany, glass, and velvet merge in the subtly colorful common living and dining area. Hard and soft surfaces balance masculine and feminine qualities.

WRITTEN BY RONDA SWANEY  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MATT VACCA



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: A custom blue lacquer colors the cabinetry of the home office, and a custom rolling ladder helps the homeowners access the highest shelves. A showpiece in the home is singer Madonna's first keyboard. Slim chair spindles, table legs, and candlesticks give the heftier piece top billing in the vignette. In the boy's room, the spiral staircase railing maintains the rhythms of the vertical wallpaper stripes.





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: An enchanted forest inspired the girl's room, hinted at by leafy green drapes and carpet. In the dramatic master bedroom, a Nancy Corzine bed sits atop a custom silk rug. Cream-and-metallic gray striped wallpaper contrasts with the burnt orange tones of the chairs and chest. OPPOSITE: Striped Zimmer + Rohde velvet adds layers of texture to the dining room chairs.



designed the base to blend mahogany with nondirectional blackened steel, which is recessed into the wood. The upper cabinet is made of the same steel with faux leather recessed into the panels. Glass shelves allow light to flow from top to bottom, while chicken wire embedded into the glass sides adds another custom touch.

An actual theater inspired the high drama of the master bedroom. A theatrical fabric company supplied the red velvet for the drapes and wall covering. Gold braiding and rosettes outline a diamond pattern behind the bed. The coffered ceiling, with hand-embossed leather, provided a hidden wiring channel for the ornate chandelier. Underfoot, walnut floors finish the high-contrast design.

The home office provides the next vignette, and is suitable for a modern-day maharaja. The blue lacquer cabinets are opened by whimsical knobs. Rich blues, reds, and apricots lend the room a touch of the exotic. The red Ultrasuede sofa hides a pull-out bed and striped silk curtains frame the view. More

muted shades of the office colors find their way into the dressing room. Ivory, peach, and blue comprise a French provincial palette. Hand-rubbed lacquer, detailed carvings, and bronze hardware feel Old World yet feminine.

Bold colors take center stage in the children's bedrooms as well. A spiral staircase leads to the play loft in the boy's room that boasts a race car theme. The striped wallpaper contains all the colors of the room—mostly varying shades of orange and blue. The same striped wallpaper is used in the girl's room, but in more girlish shades of pinks, plums, and greens. This whimsical design was inspired by the young girl's request for an enchanted forest.

Many people, including some designers, fear bold colors. Unger was lucky to find fearless clients and the owners were lucky to find a daring designer. "Not every client can create a project like this," she says. "But it's my responsibility as a designer to create something that lives up to their expectations. This project did that." ■



# the Artistry of Color

A Portland, Oregon  
Penthouse is Dressed to the  
Nines with Complementary  
Colors and Artwork

Once known as the Industrial Triangle, because of the railroad yards and turn-of-the-century warehouses, today the Pearl District of Portland, Oregon is an award-winning, recognized leader in urban renewal. Known for its art galleries, fine restaurants, upscale shops, and high-end residences, it has become a most desirable neighborhood for those looking for culture and a smart, eclectic lifestyle.

The owners of this 1,569-square-foot penthouse with picturesque views of the Fremont Bridge and Willamette River, moved from a very large home in Boston, Massachusetts. The couple enlisted the talents of Garrison Hullinger, owner and principal designer of Portland-based Garrison Hullinger Interior Design, to help with their downsizing challenges. “The owners were collectors of both fine art and lovely furnishings for many years,” says Alison Van Delden, senior designer at Garrison Hullinger Interior Design. “They had a difficult time deciding what to keep and what to get rid of in order to be comfortable in their new smaller home. We studied photos of their collections in detail and created room designs using what we knew would work in the new space,” Van Delden explains.

The newly finished penthouse had a neutral background when they purchased it. “The walls were a creamy white. Neutrals tend to be timeless, so we decided to reinforce the subtle palette by keeping many of the larger furniture components of the space also in cream tones,” says Van Delden. “We added pops of color, using some of the bolder furnishings and varied art pieces that the owners brought with them.”

The designers utilized the open floor plan as it was constructed, but repurposed certain spaces. They created a vignette room, with an art gallery, an intimate sitting area for reading, and a small desk for paperwork. “The art speaks for itself,” says Van Delden. “In fact, the art pieces were the leading force in the design and color of this home.” The chair, in a busy pattern of oranges, browns, and burgundies works successfully against an intricate Oriental rug because each unit has colors that are analogous and blend with each other, according to Van Delden. The art pieces are a mix of oil and paint mediums and sculptured or three-dimensional items. Some have colors similar to the chair and rug, but others tend toward complementary tones on the color wheel like blues and greens. Although the art is diversified, all the items work well together because of the way the designers organized the colors.

The dining room also maintains the neutral foundation in the walls and in larger items including the dining set and A zebra patterned rug that, although commanding, features neural colors. The shelving is open and discreet, allowing the art pieces to be

The owners of this Portland, Oregon Pearl District penthouse collected art pieces for decades, so it was natural that their magnificent collection would influence the design and offer striking colorful accents.

WRITTEN BY CAROLYN M. RUNYON  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BLACKSTONE EDGE

The art items vary dramatically in shape and color, but the designers were able to find cohesiveness by balancing cool and warm colors from opposite sides of the color wheel.





## Elementary Design

When dealing with color, Van Delden says it's best to get back to the basics.

Use the color wheel. Finding colors that are monochromatic (very closely toned like blue and blue-green), analogous (on the same side of the color wheel, like red, orange and yellow) or complementary (on opposite sides of the color wheel, like purple and yellow) makes mixing colors in a room so much easier and predictable. You can get this handy tool at an art store, a paint store, or online.

Start with a neutral canvas. Include major pieces of furniture in neutral tones. These have timelessness and may not need replacing for years. Add pop and interest with color in items that you can easily change such as throw pillows and accessories. Even artwork can be moved to another location or exchanged within a home to create a different look or feel.

the prominent detail. Dominant colors vary from cool medium blues to bright turquoise. But, again, the designers added several hues from the opposite side of the color wheel in yellows, oranges and reds for an extra punch. And the art presents a mix of mediums: antique statues, pottery, glass pieces, and a charming chandelier draped with turquoise that adds sparkle and picks up the blue-greens in some of the larger items. The shapes and subject matter may be unrelated, but the color placement gives the space cohesiveness.

The living room has the most intense use of color. "Again, we established a basis of neutral creams before adding any tonality. The walls and the primary sofa and footstool are soft and light to the eye," explains Van Delden. "But the brilliant blue-green of the Chinese lions (shi in Chinese or Foo dogs in Western cultures) that flank the gas fireplace ties in with the similarly colored swivel chairs in front of the windows." Van Delden and Hullinger used the complementary red-orange in the larger upholstered chair and in throw pillows. Then, they added a red burgundy overdyed patchwork rug, resourced by Kush Rugs in Portland, which created a statement against the blue-green lions.

"At Garrison Hullinger Interior Design, we tend to value the timelessness of a neutral base," says Van Delden. "These owners had such a culturally eclectic collection of art and furniture; it was exhilarating to pull the exciting, intense jewel tones into the project. Yet, we kept things balanced and not overwhelming by retaining a soft vanilla canvas. The result is a useful, comfortable environment surrounded by the dramatic beauty of their art." ■



# Color Code

## A South Carolina Couple Brings Color into Their Industrial, Urban Home

It was a matter of fitting a square peg into a round hole. Even though Jacy Painter Kelly and her husband, Kevin, had both grown up in homes that skewed traditional, the couple knew they wanted to live in a more industrial and modern home. Which meant the super traditional Charleston-style home they'd been living in for the past five was not going to mesh well with the aesthetic they longed to have. "I wanted to make our old house work for us," says Jacy, who has her own eponymous design business, "but building a new home would give us the opportunity to get exactly what we wanted. . . . We wanted to go modern and funky."

In fall 2011, the Kellys purchased a lot in Baxter Village's River Arts District located in Fort Mill, South Carolina, a growing suburb just outside Charlotte, North Carolina. After enlisting Jeanine DeVaney with Charlotte In-vir- n-ments to draw their architectural plans, the couple broke ground on the 3,400-square-foot home just weeks later. Though the interior would have an industrial-meets-modern look, the facade would be Dutch Colonial, inspired by Kevin's upstate New York upbringing. "We wanted something modern but not harsh," says Jacy. "We still wanted it to feel comfortable. We like the industrial touches but didn't want to go overboard."

The color palette is simple and modern, as well; white walls and thrice-finished black oak wood floors run throughout the open floor plan, reminiscent of an urban loft, while sleek industrial accents are complemented by rustic elements such as an oversize barn door. Pops of color via artwork such as the large canvas painting by Jacy's mother, which hangs above the dining room table, and other accessories are sprinkled throughout. The kitchen boasts the same clean lines with sleek white floor-to-ceiling cabinets from Ikea and honed black granite

counters, both of which are complemented by a dash of color in the aqua penny tile backsplash. Two Harry Bertoia-style counter stools sit at the wood butcher-block island where the Kellys' two kids—Painter, six, and Lucy, three—eat snacks and do homework. The open floor plan leads into an oversize mudroom complete with built-in cubbies and lockers, acid-stained concrete, and custom-fabricated raw metal handrails, a subtle nod to the industrial-style look.

The adjacent family room keeps with the minimal look. Kevin and Jacy opted for a no-nonsense fireplace featuring simple, clean lines as a focal point, while a sectional from west elm completes the look. But not everything in the room is brand-new. Jacy refinished a midcentury modern chest with chalkboard paint and a coat of polyurethane. "I like to mix new and old," she says, "so if I like the shape of something I'll find a way to make it work."

In the sitting room, a quiet space where the Kellys unwind sans kids or entertain some of their friends, Jacy painted the walls black but countered them with lighter accessories in creams and whites with a set of 1950s leather Copenhagen chairs featuring a hair-on-hide seat,

To keep the living room a casual, yet more adult space to entertain, Kelly painted the walls a sophisticated navy and added modern elements such as the pair of 1950s leather Copenhagen chairs with hair-on-hide.

WRITTEN BY **BLAKE MILLER**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **AMANDA JAMES PHOTOGRAPHY**



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: A mint penny-tile glass backsplash serves as pop of color in the industrial-style kitchen. In the guest bedroom, Kelly needed artwork—and color—so she painted this chevron patterned piece on canvas. The neutral master bedroom features a gray grass cloth wall covering layered with metallic gray paint by Sherwin-Williams.



Moroccan-print rug, and rustic burlap curtains. “I wanted this room to have a more grown-up feel,” says Jacy. “It’s really comfortable and cozy but sophisticated, too.”

Upstairs, the master bedroom continues the sophisticated, transitional look with a black, white, and gray color palette with pops of yellow juxtaposed with natural fiber-like carpeting layered with a Brazilian cowhide. To keep the rustic yet modern feel, the wall behind the bed boasts a modern gray grass cloth wall covering layered over a metallic gray paint by Sherwin-Williams. In the adjacent master bathroom a large Victoria & Albert soaking tub made from finely-ground volcanic limestone, is framed by a mantel painted in gray while sleek black-and-white Carrara marble penny tile flooring finish off the modern, urban aesthetic.

Down the hall from the master, Jacy took advantage of the home’s otherwise unusable spaces by adding a homework station for Lucy and Painter, featuring industrial-style metal chairs and open wood shelving. On the same floor are the kids’ bedrooms

as well as a large playroom, which features Sherwin-Williams grass cloth wall covering, an ottoman reupholstered by Jacy in a Cynthia Rowley quilt, and a west elm sectional and drum pendant.

The guest bedroom, though, is yet another room where color comes into play. Jacy repainted the headboards and dresser (all three Craigslist finds) and the antler chandelier a bright turquoise to add doses of color in the room. Jacy also created the chevron-inspired canvas painting to introduce more colors. The modern look is juxtaposed with traditional simple white matelassé coverlets and navy-and-white monogrammed pillows.

In the end, the home is a complete departure from the traditional look the Kellys were so accustomed to—which is exactly why they’re smitten with the result. “We wanted it to cater to our casual lifestyle even more,” says Jacy. “We merged a lot of different styles and sometimes we just picked what we liked. . . . [Building this house] gave us the chance to build something that was totally us.” ■



# Made in the Shades

A Vacation Home in Delray Beach, Florida Gets Its Character from an Unexpected Color Palette

Jennifer Blake Hoyos is a self-confessed “color” person. “I know that you can achieve a beautiful design without it, but why would you?” asks the interior designer and owner of The Tailored Pillow, Inc. in Hollywood, Florida. “Life is much happier in color. Most designs work best with the color controlled and planned, whether creating visual blocks of color, repeating pops of color, or creating a soothing ‘ocean’ of color.”

With this particular project, she proves you don’t have to go overboard to get your point across. “I typically specify muted lighter versions of colors for paint because they are just more versatile,” says Hoyos, who favors the Historical Collection from Benjamin Moore. “If a client wants to bring personal artifacts such as art and accessories into the space, chances are better that they will flow with such colors.”

For her client, who is an active grandmother, the designer created a light and airy environment. “It’s beachy and overall casual with formal elements. It’s fun and traditional,” says Hoyos, who chose cream walls and blue ceilings for the main areas of the 4,000-square-foot townhouse on the Intracoastal Waterway. “Blue ceilings lift a space by mimicking the sky,” she says.

Pops of red appear here and there, as seen in the living room, which features a beach-inspired color scheme made up of mostly pale blues and tans. The sofa wears big bench cushions that Hoyos says are “great for fitting an endless number of grandchildren,” while layered rugs lend visual interest underfoot. Pil-

lows add color and comfort. “I never want to give someone an uncomfortable room,” she says.

Textures and patterns make a statement. “Texture creates patterns, which play into the overall picture. The chunkier textures in the lamp, cocktail table, and seagrass rug evoke a casual feel,” says Hoyos. “To successfully mix patterns, it’s important to mix types, such as stripes, large florals, small prints, geometrics, and solids. It’s okay to mix the same pattern if the scale is completely different, like large awning stripes with small ticking stripes.”

Whitewashed wood floors establish a laidback tone throughout. The cozy breakfast nook is dressed in soft colors, as seen in the yellow wallpaper with a lattice pattern, the green distressed cupboard, and the pale-blue seat cushions. An unexpected pop of red emerges in the chandelier shades and the wooden bead drapery trim. “The mix creates a fun and casual environment,” says the designer.

Paneled walls in the pale-blue dining room are accented with grass cloth. “The room has a formal element with the Venetian glass chandelier, the Louis XVI dining chairs, and the

Contrasting textures and red accents liven up the living room of this waterfront townhouse that features a beach-inspired theme. A combination of comfort and color sets the tone for this popular family gathering spot.

WRITTEN BY JEANINE MATLOW  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY TROY CAMPBELL



## Well Balanced

Jennifer Blake Hoyos balances color and texture to create comfortable interiors.

- 1 If you have an accent color like red on one side of the room, you should balance it in at least two more places.
- 2 Textures should also be balanced and blended together with the right combination.
- 3 Layered rugs and distressed furniture make an environment feel warm and inviting by setting a casual tone.
- 4 Patterns play well together as long as they're varied in scale while sharing common elements.
- 5 Instead of playing it safe, take a chance with an accent color to create that wow factor.





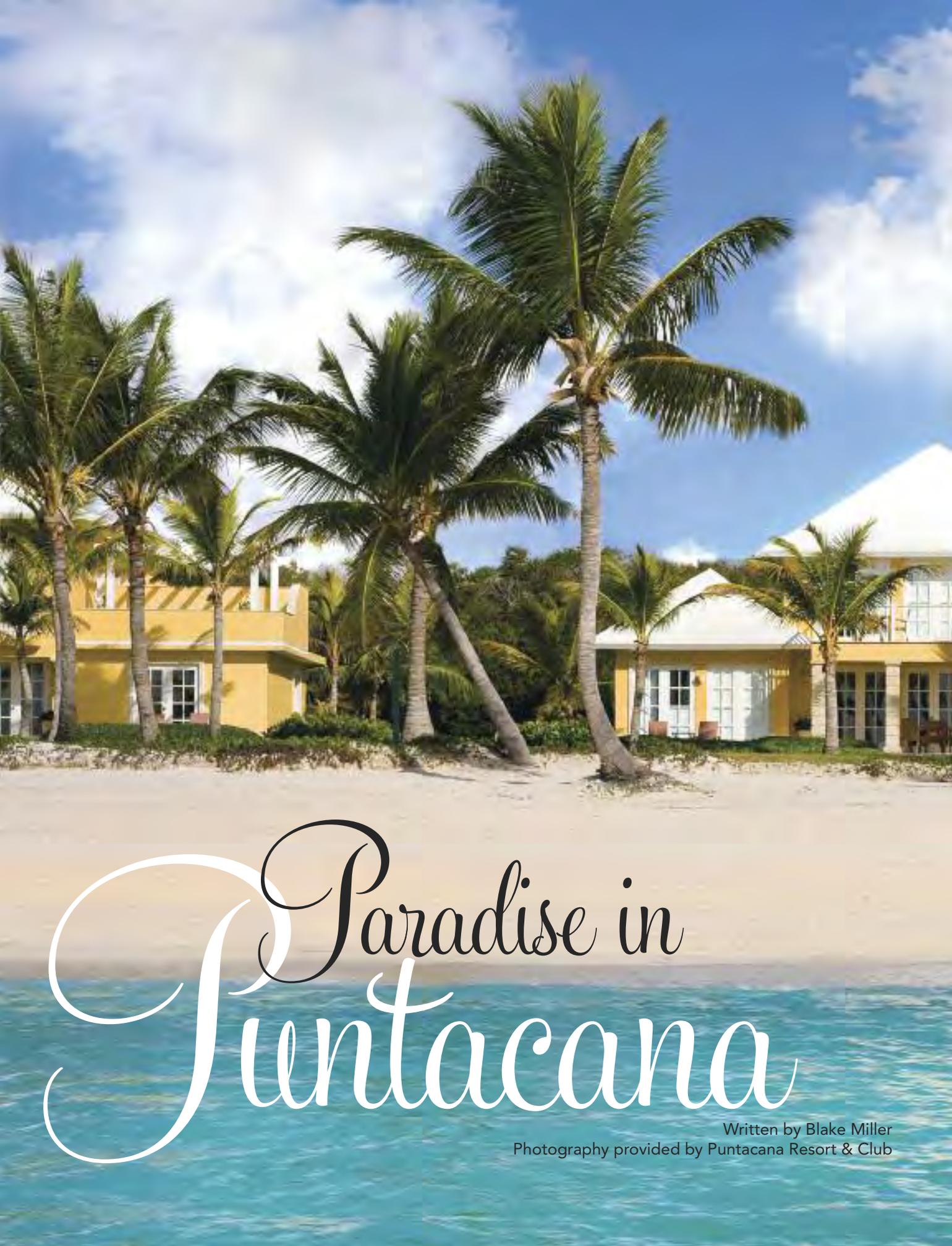
Every inch of this laidback setting is layered with soft hues such as blues and tans, reminiscent of sea and sand, injected with a healthy dose of red. Shown here, the living room, breakfast nook, foyer and patio each display a distinctive flavor established through a playful mix of patterns, such as stripes, as well as the soothing palettes that permeate the rooms.

china cabinet, but these elements have been taken to a more casual level,” she says. “The formal chandelier is balanced in the room with a casual farmhouse table. The chairs are upholstered in casual slubby linen, and the china cabinet has a rubbed distressed finish.”

In the kitchen, red knobs on the Wolf range stand out against the pale-blue painted island and the white cabinetry that was glazed for an aged effect. The red shades on the chandelier were custom colored to match. Hoyos designed the glass-tile

backsplash with a sea life theme that makes a charming statement above the stove. The hood is covered in a soft shade of blue.

As Hoyos explains, her client wanted pops of color. With the addition of red, the designer gave her a soothing combination of beach colors with a twist. The subtle yet sublime array even makes its way into the master bedroom. “I mixed different elements and styles to get an interesting artistic outcome,” she says. “Nobody’s that simple. We’re all complicated. I like to reflect the person and the mix.” ■



# Paradise in Puntacana

Written by Blake Miller  
Photography provided by Puntacana Resort & Club



**The Oscar de la Renta-designed Tortuga Bay Hotel  
Epitomizes the Best of Interior Design in Travel**



## *It's not often that one of the world's most well-known and respected*

**It's not often that one of the world's most well-known and respected fashion designers decides to step outside the drawing room and off the runway and into the world of design travel. Though it's commonplace for an interior designer to lend their name and expertise to the decor of a hotel or resort—there's the Kelly Wearstler-designed Viceroy in Miami and the Christian Lacroix-designed Hotel du Petit Moulin in Paris, for example—for a fashion designer to do so is outside the norm.**

But no one ever said Oscar de la Renta was just any fashion designer. The Dominican Republic-born designer has a residence on property at the luxury Puntacana Resort & Spa, the main property to the boutique and more intimate Tortuga Bay Resort & Spa. It's the latter, though, that bears de la Renta's signature design aesthetic—luxurious and refined—with a touch of casual Caribbean comfort. As a member of the Leading Hotels of the World and the only AAA Five Diamond-awarded hotel in the Dominican Republic, Tortuga Bay boasts just thirteen luxuriously appointed villas along a private three-mile stretch of white sand beach. It's the perfect setting for the designer's pet project where he showcases a mutual respect for both his Caribbean heritage and his high-fashion lifestyle.

The plantation-style interiors of Tortuga Bay—from the alfresco lobby to the luxurious oceanfront suites just steps from the white sand beach—is where de la Renta pays homage to the privacy and sense of calm the designer loves deeply about the Dominican Republic. Working closely with architect Rhina López Marranzini and Dominican Republic-based designer Aurora de la Rocha, de la Renta established a playful yet sophisticated color palette of white, beige, and yellows, which add warmth, calmness, and simplicity to the rooms. The backdrop of the crystal clear, turquoise blue Caribbean water serves as the perfect complement to an otherwise wholly neutral aesthetic—which is exactly what de la Renta had in mind when he made the serene setting the focus of this intimate yet luxurious property.



### De la Renta Design

De la Renta's design prowess isn't limited to the villas of Tortuga Bay. Lucky for those who visit the luxury boutique property, the designer also designed his first resort clothing boutique. The stunning 1,000-square-foot space, which boasts a similar aesthetic to the one showcased in the luxury suites, is set among the exclusive and ultra-private villas allowing guests to shop the elegant and timeless designs that have made de la Renta's work famous among celebrities, First Ladies, and more.

But it's the addition of locally sourced materials such as wicker, sea grass, and mahogany, which were used to create the custom chairs, rugs, four-poster beds, and all other furniture in the suites all made by artisans from the Dominican Republic that are the highlight of the property. Rustic natural elements mesh seamlessly with crisp 350-count Frette white linens and walls while pops of color are scattered throughout. It's the perfect coupling in paradise.

Design was not the only focus when Tortuga Bay was dreamed of. While relaxation is one of the key elements to this luxury property, adventure is also an integral part of what makes Tortuga Bay so appealing. (Regarding the former, the Six Senses spa on property is exquisite featuring an extensive spa menu and indoor and outdoor relaxation areas overlooking the turquoise blue water and white sand beach.) Professional golfers come to Tortuga Bay to play its forty-five holes of championship golf boasting six ocean-front and fourteen ocean-view holes on the Tom Fazio-designed

Corales and P.B. Dye's La Cana. Set between rocky cliffs, coral reefs, and the expansive Caribbean Sea, Corales is the true draw to Tortuga Bay. The ocean, inland lakes, natural cliffs, and coralina quarries prove to be impressive if not challenging obstacles for even the most experienced golfer.

For those who don't hit the greens, the property offers half- and full-day excursions that allow you to experience Punta Cana and the Dominican Republic fully. Between zip-lining the island jungles and exploring the Dominican Republic's natural caves to horseback riding on the beach and snorkeling the nearby reefs, there are ample opportunities to leave the chaise lounge behind in favor of adventure.

But while de la Renta has certainly put his touch on the property, it's an understated elegance that makes Tortuga Bay so special. From the serene privacy to the elegantly-appointed suites, Tortuga Bay is a can't-miss destination on the growing island of Dominican Republic. ■



# Resources

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**20 A Beautiful Blend**

Lisa Sherry Interieurs  
High Point and Charlotte, North Carolina  
336-885-1546  
[www.lisasherryinterieurs.com](http://www.lisasherryinterieurs.com)

**26 Fearless Color**

Perianth Interior Design  
New York, New York  
212-874-0556  
[www.perianth.com](http://www.perianth.com)

**32 The Artistry of Color**

Garrison Hullinger Interior Design  
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971-255-0326  
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**36 Color Code**

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