Timeless design is redefined with subtle touches of color and pattern.

By Margie Monin Dombrowski Photography by Lucas Allen Styled by Liz Howard

# **Rhythm and Blues.**

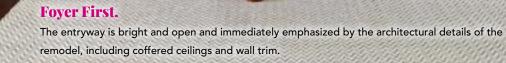
Soft, muted shades of white and blue capture a classic beach house look, while unique lines and shapes—from the geometric patterns in the rug and curtains to the organic shapes in the artwork—add a modern touch.

HUE



# Reaching New Heights.

Many rooms in the home have distinct details, such as wood beams and tongue-andgroove ceilings. In the formal dining room, hand-painted wallpaper brings the ceiling to the foreground. "The thought was to recreate something that you might see in the Hamptons," Andrew says, "but I didn't want it to feel stuffy; I wanted it to feel fresh and light. "



Ithough timeless design has long-lasting appeal, its definition is constantly changing, according to interior designer Andrew Howard of Jacksonville, Florida. When designing the Ponte Vedra Beach home of a young family of four from the ground up, a traditional Hamptons-inspired house with wood shingle exterior and a gambrel roof, the primary goal was creating a home that felt both livable and inviting.





...............

.....

and the state of t

Fresh colors bring a playfulness to the breakfast room: Metal pendants were painted in a custom orange color, a custom bench and wingback chairs were reupholstered in patterned fabrics, and a local artist was commissioned to paint the wall art depicting oars.

-----

......

accontinue

No. 1

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

"Rather than give every room the same feel and color, we tried various shades of blue,

from indigo to sky to a periwinkle-lavender, '

Southern *Cottage* | FALL 2016 13

Formerly an old ranch-style house, it was knocked down so they could start afresh. "The thought was to recreate something that you might see in the Hamptons," Andrew says, "but I didn't want it to feel stuffy; I wanted it to feel fresh and light. I kept the decor more suited to a beach house vernacular and made it feel comfortable for a young family living at the beach."

# Wide Open Spaces

The new two-story home is connected to the outdoors so the family can experience the yearround sunshine, warm weather and sea breezes from every angle.

"It was designed to be lived in and enjoyed just as much on the inside as in the outdoor spaces,"

### By the Seashore.

In the kitchen, shimmery mosaic tile and sky blue accents are reminiscent of the colors and textures found at the nearby beach.



## **Beaming with Pride.**

The landing was a nice spot to add detail with the use of architecture. The exposed beams combined with sea flags capture the Cape Cod cottage essence.

### Andrew says.

French doors in many of the rooms, such as the master bedroom and family room, open up to the backyard with large porches and cozy outdoor seating areas, where the family can relax and entertain guests. Outside, the backyard features a pool surrounded by lush palm







# "I tried to keep most of the colors really light, blue and cheerful to take advantage of all of the natural light this house gets,"

Andrew says. "Even on a rainy day, it's nice and bright inside."





trees, a fire pit and a putting green.

"There are lots of ways to keep both the family and guests entertained," Andrew says. "I wanted to make the house a great experience for everyone who visits. It's designed to be the house everyone wants to be invited to because it has great views and the experience at night is special."

### **Variations** on a Theme

Because of the proximity to the beach, much of the home's color palette is inspired by the blue ocean hues.

"Rather than give every room the same feel and color, we tried various shades of blue, from indigo to sky to a periwinkle-lavender," Andrew says. "It flows and coordinates well together, but it doesn't feel like it's the same color scheme in every room."

Some rooms are largely whitewashed except for a few spots where window trim was painted in blue, while others are splashed in aqua blue or bolder hues. In the living room, for instance, he designed a patterned area rug, which became the inspiration for the colors in the furniture as well as the slate blue beams

#### Warm Neutral.

Traditional details mix in with crisp lines and warm textures for an updated look. "Combined with the gambrel ceiling and the tone-on-tone fabrics and rugs, it's the ideal place to sleep at night." 100

1 . . . . .



### **Pearl Essence.**

The guest bathroom is a feminine confection thanks to a whimsical oystershell-style scalloped mirror and periwinkle cabinets and walls. The black and white floor tiles add a classic look.

in the ceiling. The kitchen ceiling was lacquered in a light blue to play off the dark navy blue island.

Whimsical touches such as the antique boat flags in the upstairs playroom, cheery abstract paintings and framed photographs of the Ponte Vedra shoreline tie the color scheme together and add personality to this family home.

"I tried to keep most of the colors really light, blue and cheerful to take advantage of all the natural light this house gets" Andrew says "Even on a rainy day, it's nice and bright inside."

### All American.

The den gets its casual charm from the blue and white piped sofa and vintage trunk which only looks better with age.



s Atlan of WORLD HISTORY



1 Stripe's the Star. A patterned upholstered bed and equally boldly patterned rug come together in a modern chic way in this guest bedroom.

2 Stylish Solutions. Variety is the key to the laundry room, where an eclectic mix of storage options—from cabinets, to baskets on open shelves, to a small hanging station—keeps the room hardworking yet stylish.



Southern Cottage | FALL 2016 23

