

BRING YOUR STYLE HOME

SPRING 2020

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THE

COLOR



Style setter
Alexa Chung steps
out of her office
in London.

ISSUE

Decorating

No matter the source of inspiration, from a sculptural marble table to a saturated striped wallpaper, color is always our way in.

51

Photography by Nicole Franzen

An Eye for Beauty

In an excerpt from her new book, *Live Beautiful*, Athena Calderone of EyeSwoon highlights the details that make some of her favorite spaces really click—and invites us inside her own home.

Over the past 20 years, I have owned and renovated eight homes. Yes, I am the rare bird who moves every two to three years and thoroughly enjoys every bit of it! Some may find the thought of ping-ponging around to be unsettling. But for our family of three, it just feels natural and exciting. My houses have become my design laboratory.

I have always been intrigued by the behind-the-scenes: how things (seem to) magically come together and the spark that incites a journey. In my work, I continually ask other creatives to pull back the curtain on their design practices: How do you achieve the right balance of scale, texture, patina, and layering? Is it the mix of materials, periods, or styles? Is it the blend of high and low? Is it intuitive or more studied? Is it worth staying true to the architecture of the house, or is it better to diverge to reflect your own tastes? Understanding each fork in the road is fascinating and enlightening to me.

We all borrow from one another—we take bits and bobs of other people's genius and filter them through our own lens and into our homes. I believe images get stashed away in little drawers in our mind. In spontaneous bursts of inspiration, we never know when one of these drawers will fly open to reveal a brilliant idea.

To live beautifully simply means to tinker with, explore, and ultimately find your own style. While beauty is different for each person—including, in these pages, fashion icon Jenna Lyons, Apparatus founders Gabriel Hendifar and Jeremy Anderson, and designer Giancarlo Valle—the journey for achieving it is remarkably similar; design unfolds piece by piece in an intuitive, emotional, and heartfelt process.



Start a Dialogue

At my home in Amagansett, New York, the rope ceiling served as my starting point for color, texture, and material: I chose warm rust and terracotta hues, a striped rug, graphic round pillows, a bamboo chair, and vintage rattan lighting to create a sense of cohesion.

Photography by Emily Andrews

This page: Vintage Hooks by Carl Auböck; Vintage Urn; Allene Resin Freestanding Tub from \$2,749 signaturehardware.com. On Calderone: The Gathered Linen Skirt \$500 and The Cropped Cocoon Blouse \$320 int.matteau-store.com. **Opposite:** Curtains theshadestore.com; Boxes Rug from \$345 benirugs.com; Custom Bed wilburdavisstudios.com; *Untitled (2)* by Jean-François Le Minh \$950 tappancollective.com; Duvet Cover from \$298 lastlightcollection.com; Custom Round Pillows upholstered in Rollo Stripe Fabric kravet.com; Drum Occasional Table \$7,800 apparatusstudio.com; Vase by John Born, Stool by Charlotte Perriand, Stools dobrinkasalzman.com; Vintage French Sconces, Stools, Rattan Lamp, and Ceiling Light.



Make History

"I love seeing someone else's touch, or seeing a stain, or seeing a nick or a chip," says titan of style Jenna Lyons of her lifelong appreciation for the timeworn. Take the unlacquered bronze vanity legs in her master bath—the material will naturally age over time, but you can accelerate the oxidation process by spraying the metal with salt water, as Lyons did to coax the green patina. It mimics ocean air; think: Statue of Liberty!

54

Feel All the Feels

Use a textural material to add warmth and intimacy in your bedroom. Inspired by a show they saw at the Prada Foundation, Gabriel Hendifar and Jeremy Anderson, the creators of design studio Apparatus, swathed their walls in a sultry, wine-hued velvet, which turns the space into a decadent jewel box. Of course, not all of us can use expensive fabric, so a wallpaper, grasscloth, or simple cotton can offer a similarly luxurious feel.



Photography by Nicole Franzen

Get (Just a Little) Weird

Don't be afraid to lean into sameness. In Hendifar and Anderson's case, the tonality of an Art Deco burl-wood armoire set on a wood divider and wood floor may not be an obvious choice, but embracing a look—whether it's a pattern, tone, or texture—can have a powerful effect. Offbeat objects punctuate this formality and rigor, like a carved wood ram that Hendifar purchased as a 20-something in Los Angeles.



Follow the Leader

When designer Giancarlo Valle and Jane Keltner de Valle, style director of *Architectural Digest*, visited a local Connecticut shop, they were awestruck by a marble Gae Aulenti table that triggered a memory of an iconic David Hicks–designed room. It became the catalyst for their den's terracotta walls lined with a blue-black railing detail—an homage to the late talent. Oftentimes a space that lacks direction needs only one star piece to turn it all around.

Photography by Nicole Franzen

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Read the Room



My initial vision for the family area in our Brooklyn townhouse was in line with the neutral tonality of the home, but it felt incomplete. So we enveloped the walls and ceiling in deeply saturated navy plaster. The dark hue demanded furniture that was equally weighted in form and color; we added a bespoke sofa and a jewel-toned fringed chair and velvet ottoman inspired by Milanese design. Once transformed, the space became the cozy nook it wanted to be.

How Nate Berkus and Jeremiah Brent create just enough contrast; Laure Hériard Dubreuil's method for mixing metals; why designer Pamela Shamshiri chose to subtract rather than add to her mid-century modern home—it's all here (along with major mood-board material).