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Light & Bright



A 1920s home in Scarsdale goes from dark and dated to fresh and fun

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Dressy Details
A printed pillow from Arianna Belle sits atop a Lee Industries chair in the eldest daughter's bedroom (THIS PAGE). In the powder room (OPPOSITE), a Janet Hill print hangs on a wall covered in Schumacher's Brighton Sisal. See Resources.



Mixed Company
 In the living room (THIS SPREAD), a Chinoiserie mirror from Mirror Image Home hangs above a Thibaut console and a pair of foo dog lamps purchased on 1stdibs. A Thibaut bench covered in a Quadrille check sits center stage on a carpet from Eliko Antique & Decorative Rugs, while a vibrant Brunshwig & Fils print adorns a pair of stools and a quartet of accent pillows. See Resources.



It's a small world, after all. Upon completing a college internship in Walt Disney World's Imagineering department,

which curates the Florida theme park's aesthetic, Lindsay MacRae knew that she wanted to become an interior designer. "Because of my experience at Disney, I'm always trying to create happy environments," says MacRae, an Ohio native who studied design at the University of Cincinnati. "Your home," she adds, "should always make you smile."

After graduation, MacRae hopped around the country a bit, working at Marc-Michaels Interior Design back in Florida, at Gensler in both Houston and New York, and at Robert A.M. Stern Architects, before founding her own Manhattan-based residential interiors

firm in 2013. Two years later, in its March 2015 issue, *NYC&G* named her a Rising Star.

The client whose 1927 residence in Scarsdale appears on these pages saw MacRae's cheery work on the website Houzz, then contacted the designer about spreading some joy in the 5,500-square-foot seven-bedroom that she shares with her husband and three daughters. The family had already been living there for about three years before MacRae came to the rescue. "The place was in pretty good shape," the designer recounts, "but it felt too dark, and a lot of 1980s-era elements needed refreshing."

Rather than blowing the project's entire budget on a



Simple Pleasures

To refresh the kitchen (ABOVE), designer Lindsay MacRae repainted existing cabinetry Benjamin Moore's White Dove. The pendant lights are from Palecek. (RIGHT AND OPPOSITE) Papered in Brunswick & Fils' Kanchou, the dining room features a Hickory Chair table and a three-tier buffet from Louis J. Solomon. See *Resources*.





gut renovation of the kitchen, MacRae simply gave the space a gentle makeover, painting the yellow cabinetry and dark wood island Benjamin Moore's White Dove, changing out "heavy-looking" corbels around the range hood for a more streamlined framework, and selecting a

new backsplash, lighting, and hardware. In addition to the kitchen, the dining and living rooms see heavy rotation, as the family often hosts large groups for the holidays. In the former, MacRae opted for a bird-motif wallpaper from Brunschwig & Fils. (It had hung in the family's previous

Inviting Entry
A Bunny Williams Home mirror and lamp accentuate an antique chest of drawers in the foyer. See *Resources*.



Pleasing Perches
(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) A guest room, painted Farrow & Ball's Teresa's Green, features sconces from Circa Lighting. The lamp in the eldest daughter's bedroom

is from Bungalow 5. A Schumacher velvet sheathes a cozy nook in the green guest room. Schumacher's Marella wallpaper envelops another guest room. See *Resources*.





residence, and MacRae was able to get her hands on the last few rolls of the discontinued colorway.) Meanwhile, neutrals set the stage in the living room, with “light, bright, and fun” touches provided by colorful fabrics on accent pillows and draperies. The home, MacRae says proudly, now comes off as “timeless, without looking like Grandma’s house.”

As for the private spaces, MacRae lent personality to each of the seven bedrooms through distinct color palettes and prints. In the master, the designer went for “soft and sweet,” using white grasscloth on the walls and powder-blue accents that carry through to the master bath. MacRae collaborated with the clients’ eldest daughter on her playful, yet sophisticated gray-and-pink bedroom—a far cry from the electric teal that had previously dominated the lair. And a green guest room, boasting a tufted velvet banquette that’s tucked into a cozy nook under the stairs—doubles as a go-to homework spot for the two younger daughters. MacRae’s favorite space, however, is a guest room enveloped in a blue-and-white Schumacher toile. “It was my first time wallpapering a ceiling,” she says, “and I’m so glad that I took the risk. It’s breathtaking in person.” The print’s large scale, she adds, “makes the room feel young. I love layering pattern and color onto classic bones. This house is traditional, but also very fresh.” ❁



THIS IMAGE AND OPPOSITE PAGE: JAYE J. CALDWELL



Oases Of Calm
 (OPPOSITE TOP) The beds, nightstand, and rug in the twin daughters’ room are from Pottery Barn Kids. (OPPOSITE BOTTOM) In the master bedroom, nightstands and lamps by Christopher Spitzmiller flank a headboard covered in a velvet from Lee Jofa. (THIS PAGE) In the master bath, a Wesley Hall chair is upholstered in an Ian Mankin check; the side table is from Homenature. See Resources.