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TEN DESIGN PROS FIND ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN JUST ABOUT EVERY SPACE IN THE HOUSE

WORK A ROOM

Considering a whole-house redo but unsure where to begin? A **single-space** makeover can revitalize your home and inspire the design of your dreams.

From master bath to bedroom to living space, **ten design pros** share how they took on a room and scored a winning look.



robert cardello + david lapierre



// ROBERT A. CARDELLO ARCHITECTS //

Style of home: This waterfront Rowayton beach home has two distinct personalities. The front façade has sweeping rooflines and a classic Shingle-style look, allowing the house to fit nicely into the quaint neighborhood street. The waterside is in stark contrast, with expansive glass walls and windows that celebrate the outdoor spaces. Symmetry is prominent in both elevations.

Describe the vision: This entryway bridges the gap between the traditional front exterior and the modern aesthetic of the waterside. It's a fun surprise for those coming through the door. In every client meeting, we discussed the importance of casual living and frequent gatherings. We enjoyed designing an entry that invites neighbors in and leads to fun and recreation in beautiful spaces.

Why it works: The clean, transitional lines of the interior and the widely open floor plan are immediately apparent as you enter into the double-height foyer area. A clear vista to the water draws you into the main living space and out to the party decks. Employing a glass railing system and large glass hanging fixtures keeps the space open and airy yet adds to the dramatic entry.

Resources:

Architect: Robert A. Cardello
Architects, Westport; 203-853-2524;
cardelloarchitects.com
Interior designer: Nightingale Design,
Rowayton; 203-246-9235;
julienightingaledesign.com
Builder: J&J Custom Builders, Milford;
203-876-0051; jjcustombuilders.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: JANE BEILES





diana byrne

// DB DESIGN //

Style of home: This project was a renovation. The ultimate goal was to seamlessly modernize and add lightness to a traditional home while retaining its original classic architecture.

What this room looked like before: The layout was different. There was no dog shower, and there wasn't a natural flow to handle the gardening needs from the yard. There were a lot of tall built-ins surrounding and blocking the light from the window. I wanted to gain more storage and showcase the glass Dutch door.

Describe the vision: The vision for the layout was to create more built-ins for storage while opening up the space and taking advantage of the natural light from the door to the garden. The vision for the style was to be unique, fun and highly functional yet still relate to the rest of the house. I pulled the oak floor color from the floors in the rest of the house onto the cabinetry, which then enabled the floor and shower tiles here to shine.

The first thing purchased: The patterned encaustic cement floor tiles

and the enamel-glazed, punchy blue terra-cotta shower tiles kick-started the overall vibe, and the rest fell into place from there.

Why it works: We took our time standing in the space to map out a plan. The (dream) client had very clear goals for what she hoped to achieve in rethinking this space: direct access from the yard for gardening and the dog's needs, durable surfaces and endless storage. Everything is where it needs to be now. This is the backdrop for plants and pets, which always bring a space to life!

Resources:

Interior designer: DB Design, Rye, NY; 646-246-2617; dbdesigninc.com

Architect: Doug Patt AIA, Allentown, PA; 610-657-3244; architects.academy/courses

Builder: Prutting & Co. Custom Builders, Stamford; 203-972-1028; prutting.com

Project manager: Simon Stigsby, Studio Stigsby, Montclair, NJ; 973-752-4964;

danisharchitect.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: JANE BEILES; PORTRAIT: ALIX MARTINEZ





kristen mccory

// MCCORY INTERIORS //



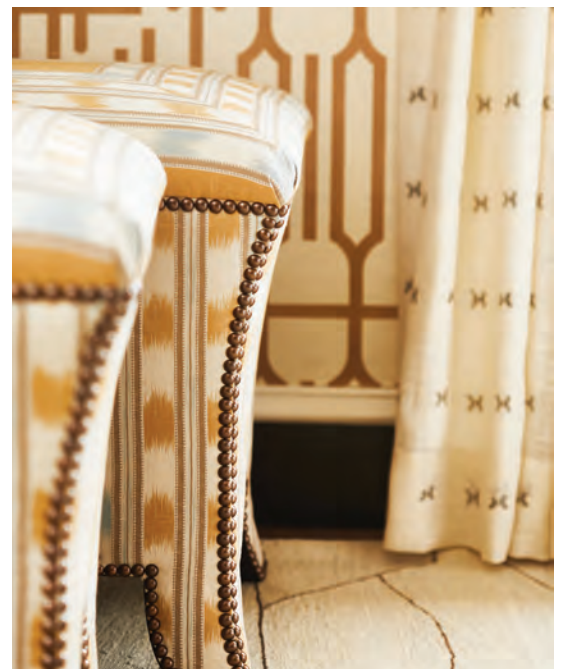
Style of home: The Dalton-Bell-Cameron House is the earliest documented Craftsman-style home in High Point, North Carolina, originally built in 1913.

What this room looked like before: When I first saw the space, it had no walls, just studs. (It was being extensively remodeled!)

Describe the vision: We wanted this room to tell a story, to explore the client's personal style and to stimulate senses. We wanted to give a nod to tradition and classic charm while still honoring today's contemporary lifestyle. Everyone has things they love and things they have collected over time. This room is a close-up of one's personal life, with an opportunity to experience memories through objects, materials and the patterns that surround them.

The first thing purchased: The Jenny Lind-style bed. With ties to Scandinavia, it evoked history and gave a little inside scoop to the person holding the room.

Why it works: This room works because it feels incredibly personal. Set in a bold cocoon of graphic wallpaper I designed myself, the Dalton Square paper sets the backdrop to the beautiful textures and layers of calming and accented neutrals. Collections of books, art and objects bring this room to life, giving a sensibility of depth and soul.



Resources:

Interior designer: McCory Interiors,
 Burlington; 860-922-8727;
 mccoryinteriors.com
 Workroom: SBR Designs, Hartford;
 860-951-7121; sbrdesigns.com
 Original art: Kelly O'Neal, koneal.com
 Rug: Keabian's Rugs, New Haven;
 203-865-0567; keabians.com



michelle morgan harrison

// MORGAN HARRISON HOME //

Style of home: This center-hall Colonial was designed by architect Paul Shainberg with interiors by Morgan Harrison Home. The elegant and classic home, with its roots in tradition, is a mix of clean lines and modern influences. The design is a balance of details with restraint—layered colors and textures through fabrics and finishes and a variety of art mediums. The owners, a young family from Chicago, are keen travelers and wanted their interest in culture, art and lifestyle to shine through the design. The design of the home is about considered layers of texture, color and the use of pattern in just the right places. Art is also special—layered and diverse in medium—elevating each space and creating opportunities to imagine.

Describe the vision: We wanted a blend of textures and materials as well as a soft neutral palette with greiges (as I like to call them) mixed with shades of blue. I wanted it to be eclectic and mixed as if collected over time to reflect the clients' travels. The art is collected as well and varied in medium.

First thing purchased: We started with the large David Burdeny photograph. Next was the Tibetan rug. We wanted that to be the star of the space with its pattern play, and for the rest of the furnishings to be more neutral. The third most important element was the design of the fireplace.

Why it works: The flow—the room is long and narrow, as it must be passed through to get to the library. To maximize the use of the space

PHOTOGRAPHY: JANE BEILES; PORTRAIT: NEIL LANDINGO



and open the flow for entertaining, we used an open-back chaise to open up the room for various seating areas.

Resources:

Interior designer: Morgan Harrison Home, New Canaan; 203-594-7875; morganharrisonhome.com

Architect: Paul Shainberg Architects, Rye, NY; 914-967-3474; shainbergarchitects.com

Builder: H&Y Construction, Brookfield; 203-775-2246; hyconstruction.com





charles hilton + amy andrews



// CHARLES HILTON ARCHITECTS AND AMY ANDREWS FOR HILTON INTERIORS //





PHOTOGRAPHY: ROBERT BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY; PORTRAITS: HILTON; NICHOLAS ROTONDI; ANDREWS: NEIL LANDINO

Style of home: This magnificent master bath is just one of the beautiful spaces in this shore Colonial-style home. The home was sited and built to embrace the outdoors and beauty of the coastal property. It was inspired by many of the classic waterfront homes along the East Coast. It was designed to feel as if the house had always been there, but with modern amenities and bright interiors.

The inspiration for the room: The inspiration for the master bath interiors truly began from the ground up. The first interior element selected was the stone mosaic floor tile and border. The colors in the stone mosaic and its slight shimmer influenced the palette. From the floor, we researched stone slabs and found the exquisite marble used at the vanities, tub deck and shower walls.

Describe the vision: The reflective quality of the mosaic and slabs, along with the elegant shape of the space, enhanced a vision of the inside of a jewel box or being seaside, inside of a shell. The homeowners had their own vision, which was to “capture as much natural light as possible.” With a beautiful architectural shell, stunning stones and firm marching orders, we had a fantastic foundation for this fresh, bright interior space.

Why it works: We complemented the light and shine of the stone with a Venetian plaster finish on the ceiling and in the water closet. The stunning mother of pearl chandelier is the cherry on top! The light continues around all eight sides of the room with touches of polished nickel. Each is a subtle accent on its own, yet together the feeling of a jewel box embraces you in the space. However, the gem in this jewel box still may be the view!

Resources:

Architect: Charles Hilton, Charles Hilton Architects, Greenwich; 203-489-3800; hiltonarchitects.com

Interior designer: Amy Andrews for Hilton Interiors, Greenwich; 203-717-1005; hiltonarchitects.com

Builder: Davenport Contracting, Stamford; 203-324-6308; davenportcontracting.com

Stone slabs: Fordham Marble, Stamford; 203-348-5088; fordhammarble.com

Floor tile/ceramic design: Karen Berkemeyer Home, Westport; 203-454-0032; karenberkemeyerhome.com

Venetian plaster: Heidi Holzer Design and Decorative Work, Redding; 203-544-9471; heidiholzer.com

Chandelier: Ironies at John Rosselli & Associates, New York City; 212-593-2060; johnrosselli.com

Sconces: Lona Design, Toronto; lonadesign.com

Window treatments: Interiors Haberdashery, Stamford; 203-969-7227; interiorshaberdashery.com

Ottoman: O’Henry House at John Rosselli & Associates, New York City; 212-593-2060; johnrosselli.com





christina roughan // ROUGHAN INTERIORS //

Style of home: This is a Georgian estate in New Canaan.

What this room looked like before: It had a cherry floor and cherry case linings...need I say more?

Describe the vision: We wanted to create a dark, sophisticated room that would be used as a library or office or for cocktail hour. We wanted a space that, upon entering, creates memories and makes everyone feel special.

The inspiration: It was an ode to the English Clubs in London, a cross between the Blue Bar at The Berkeley in Knightsbridge and the Reform Club.

Why it works: The room draws people in, and they start discussing the elements that make it special. The black lacquered walls feel warm

and inviting. The antique decanters lining the fireplace mantel, which happen to be the clients' family collection, is always a topic of conversation, as is the curated selection of art and accessories.

Resources:

Interior designer: Roughan Interiors, New York City and Greenwich;

203-769-1150; roughaninteriors.com; roughanhome.com

Contractor: Silva Contracting, Rye Brook, NY; 914-439-4670

Accessories: Roughan Home, roughanhome.com

Chairs: Wakefield Design Center, Stamford; 203-358-0818;

wakefelddesigncenter.com

Drapery: Classic Upholstery, Norwalk; 203-845-8776; classicupholsteryct.com

PHOTOGRAPHY: JANE BEILES





melissa lindsay // PIMLICO INTERIORS //



Style of home: This dressing room was part of a gut renovation in a 1930 historic home by architects Aldrich and Delano. Our goal was to create beautiful, time-honored interiors that reflect modern living. This space includes one-of-a-kind vintage pieces mixed with modern elements, such as the LED lit hanging rods and a custom metal/glass jewelry cabinet. When you're in the space, you literally feel like you're in Bergdorf Goodman! And to have the unique feature of an original fireplace in the room gives it an old-world elegance.

Describe the vision: We worked with our client to customize the storage seamlessly with her wardrobe (down to the exact number of bags, shoes and even reading glasses!). Once we had the overall plan in place, we added elements that bring elegance and a wow factor to the room, such as the hand-painted gilt wallcovering on the ceiling and a vintage gilt mirror layered on top of a mirrored wall. It was important to give this room the character it deserves. In some ways, we wanted it to feel as if this room had always existed.

The first thing purchased: Before the room was built and it only existed on paper, we found the antique crystal chandelier (which I knew was the perfect scale and look!) and the vintage gilded bamboo ottoman (which we reupholstered in a blush sateen fabric).

Why it works: A successful interior honors the architecture of the home and uniquely reflects the client's taste. I love when the room's aesthetic blends seamlessly with the bones of the house and also feels "so my client."

Resources:

Interior designer: Pimlico Interiors, Westport; 203-972-8166; pimlicointeriors.com

Architect: Apparatus Architecture, San Francisco; 415-703-0904; apparatus.com

Builder/contractor: Hobbs, Inc., New Canaan; 203-966-0726; hobbsinc.com







meghan de maria + courtney yanni

// MOSS DESIGN //



Style of home: The home is a center-hall Colonial located at the end of a cul-de-sac in a beloved Fairfield neighborhood.

What this powder room looked like before: This room was stuck in the '80s with a scalloped pedestal sink, yellow walls and shiny brass fixtures. It desperately needed a makeover, and we were happy to do it!

Describe the vision: When approaching the design of a powder room, we always want to make a statement. This is one of those rooms that you can count on your guests seeing, so why not make a fabulous impression? The wow-factor element here is the gorgeous wallpaper that makes a guest's jaw drop. From there, we played up the foliage with the sconces and freshly cut flowers.

The first thing purchased: We love to design powder rooms and always want to make them memorable—a fabulous wallpaper offers an excellent way to create that impression. As is often the case in our

powder rooms, the wallpaper was the first purchase and jumping-off point for the rest of the design. We love how the green foliage design plays off the adjacent monochromatic forest green living room, while turning up the dial on style for a “jewel box” moment.

Why it works: This powder room achieved our goal of the “unexpected moment” for guests, but the design goes deeper than the statement wallpaper. The bold colors pop against the gray trim and sink, while the metallic glow of the mirror and sconces complement the paper (and also make you look gorgeous in the mirror). Freshly cut flowers complete this sophisticated and stylish space.

Resources:

Interior designer: Moss Design, Southport; 917-292-6153; mdmossdesign.com

Wallpaper installer: Jameson Wall Covering, Fairfield; 203-372-0770

PHOTOGRAPHY: WILLIE COLE





veronica campbell // DEANE, INC. //

Style of home: This is a beach home in Nantucket. It's light and airy, carefree and family-friendly.

What this kitchen looked like before: It was unobjectionable but ordinary—all white but bland.

Describe the vision: We wanted to create a blend of the modern feel the husband wanted with the comfortable feel the wife wanted. The materials drove the design: The beautiful white marble is clean and quiet, the white glass backsplash feels like sea glass, and the worn white oak belongs on a beach.

The inspiration: The white oak. It has a driftwood feel, and it's very natural and organic.

Why it works: The kitchen blends right into the gathering room, and

as this is a family beach home, that means sandy feet, T-shirts and no shoes. It's a special place to be comfortable and enjoy spending time with family and friends.

Resources:

Designer: Veronica Campbell, Deane, Inc., Stamford; 203-327-7008; deaneinc.com

Project manager: Michael McCarthy, Deane, Inc.; deaneinc.com

Field supervisor: John Carlucci, Deane, Inc.; deaneinc.com

Builder: Chris Snell and Tommy Halford, TL Halford Construction, Nantucket; 508-221-6203; tlhalfordconstruction.com

Marble: Everest Marble, Norwalk; 203-956-7428; everestmarble.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: KIT NOBLE, PORTRAIT: KAREN MORNEAU



Stone fabrication: Stonehenge Marble & Granite,
Stratford; 203-377-1962; stonehengellc.com
Appliances: Clarke Distribution for Wolf and
Sub-Zero appliances; clarkeliving.com





stephanie rapp

 // STEPHANIE RAPP INTERIORS //

Style of home: This home is a classic 8,000-square-foot, center-hall Colonial in New Canaan, approximately twenty years old.

What this room looked like before: With Sheetrock for walls and a concrete floor, this basement area was a catchall, disorganized “storage” space that was poorly lit and offered no appeal. Yet, it connected to the exterior pool area, and we all knew it could be transformed into an amazing indoor entertainment space.

Describe the vision: This home has a lot of kids’ play areas, so the vision for this basement renovation was to create an adult getaway space for entertaining with friends. The design concept was a mountain retreat, with comfy seating, rustic elements and a casual, cool vibe complete with a bar and foosball table.

The first thing purchased: Inspired by the location of the couple’s wedding in the mountains of Colorado, the space is evocative of the cabin-like feeling of that event. The first item purchased was the

reclaimed wood wall for the bar area. This became the jumping-off point for the rustic, casual but cool aesthetic that also serves to remind the clients of their wedding day.

Why it works: This space functions for hanging out and relaxing, with designated areas for drinks and foosball. The striking antler wallpaper sets the tone for a fun, lodge atmosphere while organic elements like the hemp rope lights and natural wood in the bar area continue the laid-back vibe. It’s a great example of when design elements show how a space should be enjoyed.

Resources:

Interior design and project management: Stephanie Rapp Interiors,

Westport; 203-216-5835; stephanierappinteriors.com

General contractor: Tom Watson, Home Renovation and Design,

Trumbull; 203-650-2945

PHOTOGRAPHY: NELL LINDINO; PORTRAIT: WILLIE COLE



