

A Great Room as Entertainer's Paradise

A Texas couple turned their Colorado home's great room into a focal point for friends and family

By VAISHNAVI NAYEL TALAWADEKAR

When the homeowners—high-octane executives based in Austin, Texas—bought their 10,000-square-foot Wolcott, Colo., home in 2020, it was special in more ways than one. The husband—an investor who works in construction—had grown up in Chicago, and still had friends and family there. Now, as an adult, Wolcott, situated around 116 miles west of Denver, served as the perfect halfway point between Illinois and Texas for him and his wife, an executive at a commercial real estate and property management group, to host friends, family and clients. To help them transform the home into an entertainer's paradise, they reached out to interior designer Meredith Owen, with whom they were familiar, having previously sought her services for their Austin home.

For the homeowners, it was important that the great room be given priority in the interior design. "As the first room guests step into, it sets the tone for the rest of the house, so it had to be inviting, warm and cozy," says Ms. Owen, adding that another important consideration for the homeowners was to let the view of the red rocks be the shining star. Taking inspiration from the mountain scenery, as well as the deer bust, wooden rafters and stone-wall cladding left behind by the previous homeowners, she sourced elements that would hold a mirror to the outdoors, including saddle-leather chairs, bouclé and wool pillows, and tufted-leather ottomans.

"My launching piece, however, was none of these," she says. "It was instead an antique rug we picked up at a boutique rug gallery in Austin. It fit the space beautifully."

Here are some of the design elements that make the \$200,000 great room a haven for family and friends.



1. A white sofa by Younger + Co sits opposite the fireplace, offering the perfect perch for winter evenings. "We sourced this two-piece sectional because it could be made to order for the space, plus the comfort of this piece is unmatched," says Ms. Owen. // **Price:** \$5,600

2. In a bid to frame the edges of the room, Ms. Owen introduced four brown armchairs by Wesley Hall Furniture. "With swivel bases and saddle leather, they are the ultimate in comfort and luxury," she says. // **Price:** \$3,811 each

3. In a room largely made up of neutral tones, the 13-foot by 24-foot area rug serves as a colorful focal point. "We picked it up at Black Sheep Unique, a boutique rug gallery in Austin," says Ms. Owen, adding that she knew it would be the home's tour de force the moment she lay eyes on it. "It was the perfect size and it also had these beautiful jewel colors that would really allow us to have some fun with the color palette." // **Price:** \$88,609

4. A two-tier faux candlestick chandelier from Visual Comfort nods to the rustic setting. "We needed a large-scale chandelier that didn't distract from the view, so this one was ideal for its clean lines and open design," says Ms. Owen. // **Price:** \$8,252

5. A pair of Arden Ottomans by Cisco Home flank the coffee table, their deep brown a hat-tip to the mountain surroundings. // **Price:** \$4,000 each

6. By twilight, the Great Room gains a gentle glow, courtesy of the table lamps by Circa Lighting that sit on either side of the sofa. // **Price:** \$838 each