

little by little

This North Carolina new build has serious style, thanks to a simple formula: Start with crisp white, layer on natural finishes, and add plenty of rich but subtle color.



OPENING STATEMENT

A soaring open-beam great room launches the design of Forrest Staton's Winston-Salem home. Honey-color wood, cool bluestone, and white shiplap soften the angular architecture, as do linen, velvet, and chenille fabrics. Navy accents pull together the living room seating area.

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STARK WHITE
WALLS MAKE
A GALLERYLIKE
BACKDROP
FOR ART.

“I wanted consistency of design throughout the house.”

HOMEOWNER FORREST STATON



<<
 OPEN STAIRS
 TO A SECOND-
 STORY
 PLAYROOM LET
 LIGHT PASS
 THROUGH.

When Forrest Staton was ready to build a home, she chose land in the same Winston-Salem woods she grew up exploring. The next item on her wish list was pure and simple sunshine, so Forrest settled on a long, one-room-deep layout with uncovered windows lining the walls. From there, she passed the reins to her interior designer, cousin Alys Protzman. “Because of the home’s strong, angular architecture, I added softness with fabrics and organic shapes,” Alys says. A palette of deep colors—united by a thread of navy—energizes the white walls and floors. “We wanted it to be comfortable but polished,” Alys says. “This is a house that accommodates kids (Whitten, 10, and Ben, 7) running around, but is ready for grown-up entertaining.”

LIGHT THE WAY

Interior designer Alys Protzman designed the huge glass-and-bronze light to help define the dining area in the great room. “I didn’t want to make a big statement, but rather to make it feel like part of the house’s architecture,” she says.



— WALL —
SUPER WHITE
 OC-152
 BENJAMIN
 MOORE

WORK ZONE

Forrest calls the oak trestle table in the breakfast nook, *right*, the everything-goes spot. It's where they do homework, crafts projects, and eat most meals. The banquette cushions wear soft but durable chenille; pillows in outdoor fabrics punch up the navy with citrusy hues.

BRIGHT SIDE

Yellow Eames-style counter stools add spirit to an otherwise all-white kitchen, *below*. Bonus: The fiberglass seats clean up easily, a welcome feature in a kitchen used by kids every day. Refrigerator drawers in the island keep drinks handy.

THE DETAILS

Indigo arabesque tile and floating wood shelves visually connect a small hall bar, *below right*, to the rest of the house. "We wanted it to feel like a little jewel box," Alys says.

A MILK WHITE
 WASH UPDATES
 BASIC OAK
 FLOORS.





A SERENA
& LILY
HANGING
CHAIR MAKES
A GOOD
LOOKOUT
SPOT.



TICKLED PINK

Whitten's room, above, introduces strong pink accents and geometric motifs for a shot of energy. "We still have our navy, but we couldn't do her room without some hot pink," Alys says.

FRESHEN UP

In the powder room, right, the home's color scheme hits a more playful note. Alys swapped white walls for a navy patterned wallpaper (Round and Round the Garden by Anna Spiro) and gave the sink a coat of glossy green paint.



[PALETTE]

NAVY PLUS

"Navy is a neutral that goes with everything,"

Alys says. "It can go traditional. It can go contemporary. It's youthful and fresh."

Alongside natural-tone woods, navy warms sleek white spaces and pairs well with the jolts of sunny yellow, sour lime, and deep pinks and corals throughout Forrest's house.



CURB APPEAL

The facade's traditional use of brick, *left*, goes modern in its high-contrast mix of bright white paint and dark green trim. Architect Larry Snively used a standing-seam zinc roof to add another contemporary note, plus it's a long-lasting and eco-friendly material.

PORCH PERCH

Floor-to-ceiling windows, an inviting hanging bed, and a cozy fireplace make the year-round porch, *above*, a favorite spot for football-watching parties, movie nights, and afternoon naps. Bluestone pavers flow outside to the patio, completing the indoor-outdoor connection. ■