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Inside Ken Fulk's World of Whimsy & Wonder





Strike a Chord

By taking all her clients' notes and adding her own voice, Austin's Jenna Barton Interior Design created a harmonious home. *by RIKI ALTMAN-YEE interiors photography by CHASE DANIELS*

Interior designer Jenna Barton says, "I think, in their heart of hearts, these clients wanted a 'wow' space that felt special, original, and as thoughtfully designed as possible, while still feeling classic and timeless." The homeowners, a young professional couple with demanding careers and three small children, were building their new primary residence in Rollingwood. Since the lot they found was in urban environs, they envisioned their two-story, 7,250-square-foot modern Tudor would feel like a retreat: tucked away, serene and inviting. "They came to us with years of saved inspiration and a deep appreciation for design," recalls the founder

The homeowners' prized collection of Pearl Jam collectible posters stand out in the tone-on-tone office.

and principal designer of Jenna Barton Interior Design, a boutique residential studio in Austin. "The wife wanted beautiful fixtures, tile, and finishes she'd fallen in love with while dreaming and scheming. She wanted a home that felt elevated but approachable, tailored yet family-friendly. It needed to serve a young family of five while still feeling calm, curated and personal. Our primary goal was to take those ideas—which were many—and translate them. They were especially drawn to special details and rich materiality, and they entrusted us to refine their vision into something timeless and original."



From top: Having a playroom above the breakfast nook is a clever way to take advantage of bonus loft space; playful finishes and color choices in the home's utility spaces add interest, while keeping the design on theme; Interior designer Jenna Barton says the home's refined and calm color palette allows the various textures "to breathe."



Starting with a neutral, live-sawn white oak from Kristynik Hardwood Flooring, Barton's strategy prioritized careful editing. "Instead of layering competing ideas, we carved out thoughtful moments where special details could shine. We leaned into materials that would wear well with time and family life—natural stone, unlacquered brass, durable finishes—and used them with intention." Choosing a palette that leans traditional but still feels fresh, she opted for patinated brass, warm woods, and custom detailing, with a focus on stone for the floors and countertops. "The theme throughout was 'balance,'" Barton explains, "between modern and traditional, luxury and livability."

Arguably the kitchen, with its bold brass hood and heavily veined marble backsplash, became the pièce de résistance. But Barton was careful to balance impactful statements with subtle details, such as sleek downlights and brass island feet. Fluted glass cabinet fronts offer not only texture and softness, but also a touch of romance. "It brings movement and light to the cabinetry without being too precious or decorative—exactly the kind of quiet detail we love."

Some of the more intelligent design features in the five-bedroom home are equally subtle, like the hybrid scullery/office and the small loft play space, which is accessible from the breakfast area via a spiral staircase. However, Barton allowed the furnishings, which were primarily new and sourced through her studio, to establish a consistent tone throughout. Several custom pieces, including a one-of-a-kind dining table and console at the entry, make the home feel deeply personal and tailored.

Though the residence could easily blend into the landscape of most major cities, Barton says it is especially fitting here. "Austin's design language often blends casual sophistication with natural ease—and this home reflects that duality. We used raw, natural materials that will only get better with age, and prioritized flow and function for a busy family. There's a sense of intentionality and authenticity in every room that feels very true to Austin's creative, grounded spirit." Plus, with a nod to our city's reputation as the Live Music Capitol of the World, the home also boasts a prized collection of framed Pearl Jam posters in the office and wallpaper that Barton had customized with spines from the couple's favorite albums for the breakfast room. "The husband is particularly musically inclined," she explains.

In all, this project reflects how many individuals and their ideas can work together in concert to hit the right notes. "This home tells the story of trust, collaboration and refinement," Barton says. "The final result feels deeply personal and beautifully balanced. When we walked the clients through their finished home, their emotions were palpable—the years of hard work and believing in the process came to fruition as beautifully as they'd hoped. That, to us, is the ultimate success: creating a home that feels like a reflection of the people who live there, and delivering peace of mind through a process marked by clarity, care and intention."



Diffused sunlight through sheer curtains and fluted glass cabinet fronts provide soft contrast to angular, modern Restoration Hardware furnishings and an abstract Lindsay Adelman chandelier.

Design Details

Type
Single-family

Location
Austin

Designer
Jenna Barton
Interior Design
jennabartoninteriors.com

Architect
Vanguard Studio
vanguardstudio.com

Builder
Enve Builders
envebuilders.com

RESOURCES

J&L Hardware
Kitchen and
bathroom faucets
jllhardwareatx.com

Le Maé
Counterstools
lemae.com

Maiden Home
Living room sofa
maidenhome.com

Restoration Hardware
Dining room
table and chairs
rh.com