

SENSE OF PLACE

A family home features an aesthetic that subtly embraces the island setting.

By Marni Elise Katz // Photography by David Duncan Livingston



Melanie Coddington's clients issued strict instructions: No anchors, ropes, lobsters or other traditional (read: cliché) coastal references. "They wanted to build a legacy home with a focus on authentic materials and quality craftsmanship," says the designer, whose firm, Coddington Design (coddingtondesign.com) is based on the West Coast; she also decorated the family's full-time home outside of San Francisco. The challenge was to apply these principles in a way that felt geographically appropriate.

The approximately 4,000-square-foot house, located on the eastern shore of Nantucket, is designed around family time and the outdoors. Matthew MacEachern of Emeritus (emeritusdevelopment.com) devised an L-shaped configuration that hugs a back deck accessible from nearly every room on the

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From top: Two sets of French doors open from the living room to the deck, where the chimney does double duty to accommodate an outdoor fireplace; in the living room, a textural sea anemone-like pendant hovers so by the beams, subtly highlighting the seaside locale.



From top: A handblown glass chandelier by John Pomp floats above the dining table; in the media room on the lower level, ombre curtains add color and softness to the wood-lined walls and polished concrete floor, which also boasts a shag rug from Stark.

...CONTINUED first floor. Windows on both sides of the public wing take advantage of pond and ocean views. "The owners talked a lot about being together," MacEachern says. "Cooking, sitting, talking, indoors and outdoors."

Carefully crafted finishes and furnishings speak to that sense of place the clients craved. In the entry, which sets the tone for the house, MacEachern incorporated clean, vertical batten paneling. "It's a historic application of a detail found in a captain's home, but modernized with wider panels and spacing," he says.

The kitchen, which is the heart of the home, takes cues from the wife's childhood kitchen in Vermont without sacrificing current-day conveniences. "It necessitated a collected-over-time vibe, which I achieved by using a variety of finishes," Coddington explains. The sitting room side is anchored by a cottage-style wood-burning fireplace with a white plaster facade, reclaimed granite mantelpiece and a soapstone interior. The focal point on the working side is a custom refrigerator modeled on an old-fashioned icebox. A pair of islands channel completely different styles—one quite contemporary, the other, rustic farmhouse.

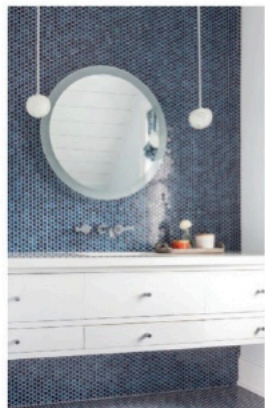
In the dining room, vintage Scandinavian-style chairs surround the dining table with a warm, weathered feel. The table's narrow oval shape, requested by the homeowner, allows for intimacy, while the metallic grass-cloth wallcovering adds a cozy sparkle at night.

The outdoors takes center stage in the living room, which boasts views on three sides. The layout accommodates the entire family, whether they're hanging out together or doing their own thing. Coddington carries CONTINUED...





Clockwise from left: Coddington implemented a more masculine vibe in the husband's study with a vintage desk and hair-on-hide rug; blue penny tile wraps from the floor up the wall in the daughter's bathroom; vaulted ceilings in the master bedroom contribute to home's airy vibe.



...CONTINUED through a mix of materials and styles in an earthy palette that echoes the natural surroundings. "They spend time here year-round," she says. "Orange picks up on the grasses in autumn."

For movie time, the family descends to the lower level, where wide panels of pale plywood line the walls, offering a creative solution to Sheetrock. A thoroughly contemporary wine cellar with frameless glass walls and pea gravel floor, a suggestion from the husband that is modeled on French wine caves, is a functional art installation lit from within.

As for the bedrooms, MacEachern graced them with cathedral ceilings for an airy feel. Varying rooflines done with painted V-groove boards offer interest above, while the wide-plank engineered oak floors offer a soothing rhythm underfoot. Coddington worked with each of the couple's children to create bedrooms and baths that feel personal and cohesive with the overall scheme. In the master, a rope detail on the custom bed is the home's sole nautical accent. Coddington just couldn't resist. ■

