

When buying furniture, homeowners Dan and Lisa Charney considered each piece an investment, and let that drive their decisions. "I know that the bones of the furniture are pretty standard, so in the future I can put any fabric on them in any house," Lisa says. "Each one will stand the test of time."

style fusion

He wanted traditional decor; she craved a sophisticated, funky look. With decorators' help, they found a common ground where style rules and comfort conquers all.



COURTESY: In the living room, patterned ceramic chairs wear a large-scale starburst print, and the room's seating pulls up to an oval ottoman dressed in a turquoise-rug animal fade. **LEFT:** Traditional frames, such as the living room's drop-leaf table, mix with contemporary fabrics and accessories. **ABOVE:** "At first, I think Dan thought the designer and I had gone nuts!" Lisa says of the hide-covered ottoman. Dan concedes, "It was a bit shocking, but I've come to love it." **BELOW:** Oversize accessories make a big splash with simple shapes and bold color.

Costly. Clearly you need the East Coast, an island steeped in history and tradition. Lisa Cheney was raised in the Southwest, where the weather is a way of life and casual reigns. Love, marriage, and even parenting transcend their originality. But when the couple began to create a new home, their differences overtook themselves. "I was raised South, with all the red and blue colors," Lisa says. Dan considers himself an unusual type. "I'm the Cape Cod kind of folk," he says.

For final consensus, general, the couple hired designers Paul McAdaragh and Loren Jacobs. "Dan and Lisa have completely different tastes," McAdaragh says. But the designing pair was able to make husband and wife happy by combining their opposing views.

To satisfy Dan's taste for tradition, McAdaragh chose furnishings with classical shapes and details, such as the living room's bergamot chairs. "What brings the traditional elements into the bedroom are the chairs and the tufted headboard," McAdaragh says.

To give the case goods a dash of Lisa's personality, McAdaragh and Jacobs chose bright, playful fabrics and upholstery on pieces throughout the home—including a turquoise-lace hide covering for the living room's ottoman. In the dining room and bedroom, bold red, orange, and hot pink textiles spice things up. "And the tufted chair gives the bedroom a funky edge," McAdaragh says.

Walls painted with rich color bring both contemporary and traditional, giving each room a special backdrop. In the dining room, paprika-colored walls "bump it up a notch" from the previous dark



THIS PHOTO: "When we first moved in, this room was hideous—gold and mustard wallpaper and a mustard yellow ceiling," Lisa says. She had dark burgundy walls in place of the paper, "but nobody liked them," designer Patti McAdaragh says. "So we brought in a bright orange." OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT: With stained-wood cabinetry and granite countertop, the kitchen affords the busy west-end town of the family. OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT: The set in breakfast room is equally kid-centric with a sunny round table that invites family meals.



compromise with kids in mind

With three children under age 8, however, the Charneys wanted their interiors to work for adults and kids alike. "When I first visited the home, the living room was a playroom," designer Patti McAdaragh says. With help from McAdaragh and designer Loren Jacobs, the Charneys wanted that living space could be kid-friendly and beautifully furnished at the same time.

Think about traffic. "Because of the kids, Dan and Lisa didn't want to spend a ton of money on the living room rug," McAdaragh says. It's a room where your family does the most living, opt for good-looking but easy-to-repair and easy-on-the-budget floor coverings.

Use the high/low combo. Instead of using high-and-fabric to cover the sofa, McAdaragh and Jacobs chose a more affordable power fabric and saved the designer fabric for pillows. The economical fabric will also hide a multitude of messes. "The designer fabric is still powerful—and it didn't break the budget," Jacobs says.

Keep it simple. White works well for families because it's easy to wash and—better yet—invisible. "Lisa warned us that there were always chocolate fingers on her bed, so instead of molly the bedding or a duvet, we kept the bedding simple and made it special with accent pillows," Jacobs says.

bedroom—44. McAdaragh says. "The master bedroom walls were beautiful soft blue. But the ceiling was so bland," McAdaragh says. Her solution? Paint it a pale shade of white and hang a chandelier over the bed. The combination gave Lisa the touch of drama she was looking for without upsetting the cozy, classic scene.

Both kids are being drawn to a cozy space. A large mirror hangs over the dining room wall, adding light and reflecting the room's bright color. Yggdrasil on both sides of the living room fireplace gives the room traditional symmetry using contemporary pieces. A mix of classic console tables, simple chairs, and large floor lamps. Although there was a budget for accessories, McAdaragh did a lot of fun shopping inside the Charney home. "Patti just went around the house and pulled things together," Lisa says. She made the look come alive.

With McAdaragh and Jacobs' help, the Charneys found a stylish middle ground for their family's needs that is comfortable for their family. "We chose a route that allowed us not to be too conservative," Lisa says. And, for Dan, just a few minutes.

PHOTOS BY PATTI MCADARAGH



"We kept the furnishings somewhat traditional in their shapes, but we used fabrics to give each piece *punch* and some *personality*."

—HOMEOWNER LISA CHAPNEY

"It's covetable!"
Makeup is one of the
Dierney's bedroom.
When treatments for
make the good form
without having
formal. "It really does it
up." McAdams says.



"If I were to have my own house, all alone, it would be totally *funkadelic*."

—LISA CHARNEY

OPPOSITE: An Asian-inspired console table and a piece of dramatic modern art occupy one side of the bedroom, while a seating area with traditional, tufted chairs gathers on the opposite side. "The arrangement makes it feel balanced," McArdagh says. **LEFT:** Lisa knew she wanted a variety of case goods in the bedroom, and Dan wanted a flat-panel TV and entertainment center. The dresser with mother-of-pearl inlay was a find that thrilled them both. Dan's TV hangs above it, in place of artwork, and the dresser acts as his entertainment center. **BELOW LEFT:** Mirrored night tables and mercury-glass lamps lend a touch of bling to the all-white upholstered headboard and more.



bohemian chic

Dan and Lisa Charney gave their home an eclectic sophistication. "The house doesn't have a theme," Lisa says. Designer Pam McArdagh helped her embrace the fact that themes aren't really *her* thing. "I like to stay in bohemian chic." Here's how to get it:

COLOR Let one or two hues stand out in every room. In some spaces, such as the dining room, the walls do the talking. In others, such as the bedroom and living room, accents and artwork speak louder than paint.

PATTERN AND TEXTURE A mix of patterns and textures gives a room visual rhythm. A variety of fabric patterns—a wavy stripe on bolsters, an organic form with geometric details on pillow shams, and a scrollwork, floralist blanket top—drama up Lisa's white bedding in the Charneys' bedroom. The room's look includes glass lamps and mirrored nightstands, tufted chairs and headboard, and a soft faux-fur throw offer tactile interest.

A TOUCH OF DRAMA Unexpected accents keep your interiors fun, funky, and never too matchy. The living room ottoman's turquoise-rim upholstery and the bedroom's dresser with iridescent mother-of-pearl inlay give these rooms a dramatic quality. In the dining room, a large mirror framed by oversized, colorful trings is an element of surprise. "We really wanted to create some drama in here, and I think these (and others) really do it," McArdagh says.

