

NAPLES EDITION

FLORIDA DESIGN

Hello, Spring!

**Vibrant Homes on the Gulf Coast
Welcome the New Season**



NAPLES HOME TOUR
Step Inside the City's Chicest Rooms

INTERIOR DESIGN MEGAN HICKMAN,
FREESTYLE INTERIORS, BONITA SPRINGS, FL
TEXT KELLEY MARCELLUS
PHOTOGRAPHY VENJHAMIN REYES, MIAMI, FL

Against a backdrop of the pool's cool blues and lush tropical foliage, woven rocking chairs reflect the warm wood tones of the benches in the dramatic sunken fire pit, which is a focal point of the patio.

Welcome to Paradise

SOPHISTICATED FLORIDA VACATION VIBES SET A TONE OF
CONVIVIAL ELEGANCE IN A NAPLES SPEC HOME

RIGHT: The living room offers plenty of seating options with two sofas and two armchairs surrounding a lacquer burl coffee table. Custom cabinetry in dark gray holds a variety of all-white vases, books, and other objects.

BELOW: The entry foyer serves as an introduction to the colors and themes found throughout the residence. Warm European oak floors set against creamy walls and textural ceilings set the backdrop.



IF LOCATION IS INDEED THE FIRST RULE of real estate, then a newly constructed home built on speculation near the legendary Naples Beach Club is set to be a winner. The 6,000-square-foot residence on South Golf Drive was designed to be a restful retreat. With just two paint colors and a proliferation of woods and other natural textures, interior designer Megan Hickman of Freestyle Interiors set out to create a “a different home for Naples with an organic feel and warm tones.”

Hickman is a transplant from Chicago, and this is the first home she’s designed in Florida, so she approached the task as someone moving to the subtropics in need of a reinvention would have. The designer opted for a backdrop of creamy whites, woven textiles, and contemporary geometric motifs, and avoided any of the clichés associated with coastal design.

To illustrate what she means, the designer points to the grass-cloth mural in the dining room. Inset into traditional cabinetry in a rich, dark brown finish, the artwork alludes to the outdoors with a feathery drape of foliage framing an impressionistic waterscape. A quick turn of the gaze brings in the reality of the outdoors through expansive glass doors that open to invite an easy flow for entertaining. Inside and out, the color palette is very similar. “We are saying we are in Florida, and we’re near the water,” explains Hickman, “but that doesn’t mean everything has to be blue.”

Throughout the residence, warmth is imparted by the golden hues of the hardware, lighting fixtures, and wood tones—from the European oak floors to the high-lacquer burl dining table to seating with airy caning. Warmth also found its way to the kitchen. At first glance, the space tells a clean white



ABOVE: The design team faced a challenge in the kitchen as the oven hood was not centered on the island sink. “In fact, it’s not really centered in the overall room, so I selected flush mount lights instead of pendants so as to not draw attention to it,” says Megan Hickman. “It’s not a detail that someone would necessarily notice, but it’s important to balance in the design.”

ABOVE RIGHT: To evoke some drama in the dining room, the traditional built-in cabinetry, which houses a wine cooler, was painted a deep shade of brown. By contrast, the contemporary, high-lacquer round dining table is a bright blonde shade. The chairs are upholstered in a performance fabric for ease of care. A mural depicting calm waters and hanging plants invites nature into the space.

story. Yet, with the addition of the oak on the island, refrigerator and freezer doors, bar stools, and open shelving in the service kitchen, the space avoids any notions of cold minimalism.

The home’s six bedrooms were brought to life with plenty of textures to keep things interesting. One guest room features horizontal woodwork evoking an elevated cottage coziness, while another introduces soft colors on the wallpaper behind the headboard. In this latter suite, a mounted rattan swing gives a playful bird’s-eye view of the pool below.

In select spaces, Hickman opted for bolder color schemes. The office, for instance, plays with black lines. The cabana bath leans into the geometric via tilework. And the powder room offers an ocean dive with under-the-sea themed wallpaper that brings the space to life.

With doors that open to a second-story patio, this sitting room features a white-on-white theme offset by a black leather ottoman. The maroon velvet chair brings out undertones in the carpet. The playful artwork of a vintage diver reminds us that the pool awaits just outside.



The design team kept the home's ceilings light in color and paid careful attention to the lighting throughout with flush-mounted fixtures and sconces installed at eye level. "To get good light, you really need the light near the eye," says Hickman. "It helps with the scale of the room."

The second-story den offers visiting guests a place to unwind without coming into the home's more formal spaces. Every texture here is soft—a plush sectional sofa is perfect for curling up with a book, as is a maroon velvet chair, a heavy color and material for a Florida home, but one that works nonetheless.

"The home was designed to make its eventual homeowners feel like they are in a welcoming five-star resort," says Hickman. "As I see it, that's what living in Florida is all about."



LEFT: "You feel like you're snorkeling," says Hickman about the powder room, referring to its sea life-themed wallpaper and the pair of sconces that recall air bubbles floating to the surface. A giant clamshell-shaped tray under the sink solidifies the idea.



RIGHT: Windowpanes framing a tropical view offered the inspiration for the oversized print gallery wall in the home's office. The geometric rug and contemporary guest chairs offer a departure from other furnishings. "You can be organic, soft, and neutral, and then throw in something that's a little edgier," says Hickman. "Why not?"



SOURCES

BACK EXTERIOR

Wicker chairs and lounges – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Accent table – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Pool designed by Windham Studio, Bonita Springs, FL, and fabricated by Custom Pools of Naples, Naples, FL

ENTRY

Bench – Arteriors Home, [arteriorshome.com](#)
Console – Gabby, [gabby.com](#)
Pendant lighting – Regina Andrews, Detroit, MI
Sconces – Visual Comfort & Co., High Point, NC

LIVING ROOM

White sofa – Burton James, City of Industry, CA
Brown sofa – Rowe Furniture, [rowefurniture.com](#)
Club chairs – Century Furniture, High Point, NC
Cocktail table – Villa and House, High Point, NC
Round side table – Noir Furniture, High Point, NC
Side table – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Lighting – Visual Comfort & Co., High Point, NC
Floor lamps – Lamps Plus, [lampsplus.com](#)
Area rug – Jaipur Living, [jaipurliving.com](#)

KITCHEN

Cabinetry designed by Megan Hickman, Freestyle Interiors, Bonita Springs, FL, and fabricated by Allikriste, Naples, FL
Stools – Palecek, High Point, NC
Lighting – Visual Comfort & Co., High Point, NC

DINING AREA

Table – RH, [rh.com](#)
Chairs – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Lighting – Visual Comfort & Co., High Point, NC
Wall cabinetry – Allikriste, Naples, FL
Wallcovering – Phillip Jeffries, [phillipjefferies.com](#)

SITTING ROOM

Sofa and chair – Rowe Furniture, [rowefurniture.com](#)

Cocktail ottoman – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Area rug – Loloi Rugs, Dallas, TX
POWDER ROOM
Sink counter – Kohler, [kohler.com](#)
Sconces – Visual Comfort & Co., High Point, NC
Wallcovering – Scalamandre, [scalamandre.com](#)
OFFICE
Desk – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Chair – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Side chairs – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Ceiling lighting – Visual Comfort & Co., High Point, NC
Desk lamp – Uttermost, High Point, NC
Area rug – Lulu and Georgia, [luluandgeorgia.com](#)

PRIMARY BATHROOM

Cabinetry – Allikriste, Naples, FL
Bench – Vanguard Furniture, Conover, NC
Mirrors – Mirror Home, Commerce, CA
Sconces – Visual Comfort & Co., High Point, NC

PRIMARY BEDROOM

Bed and headboard – Vanguard Furniture, Conover, NC
Bedside table – Vanguard Furniture, Conover, NC
Lamp – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Chandelier – Palecek, High Point, NC
Ottomans at foot of bed – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Chair – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Decorative lounge – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Drink table – Four Hands, Austin, TX
Round chandelier – Palecek, High Point, NC

THROUGHOUT

Architecture – Falcon Design, Naples, FL
Builder – Equinox Construction Group, Naples, FL
Landscape architect – Windham Studio, Bonita Springs, FL

ABOVE: In the primary bathroom, white oak vanities with dark porcelain countertops highlight the dark window accents and are warmed by oversized gold-framed mirrors in perfect scale with the elevated ceilings.

RIGHT: The primary bedroom is all about “texture on texture on texture,” says Hickman. Neutral wallpaper in a geometric pattern lends dimension to the upholstered headboard and wooden plank ceiling, which features different finishes of the same color. The sculptural chaise by the glass doors was upholstered in leather for a touch of Art Deco glam.

