

# SOUTHPARK

## M A G A Z I N E

*a fresh take!*  
Innovative and inspiring ideas in three homes

SENSORIA SNEAK PEEK!  
AN ICONIC DANCE  
COMPANY RETURNS

COCKTAIL HOUR  
AT KINSHIP

PALMETTO BLUFF'S  
SOUTHERN CHARM

- EASY ELEGANCE IN MYERS PARK
- BREEZY BEACH HOUSE STYLE
- PICTURE PERFECT IN FOXCROFT









Taking advantage of the home's natural light was a priority for the family. Casey optimized it by keeping the color palette light and using minimal window treatments.

# FRESH FOCUS

A FAMILY HOME GETS A BRIGHT, NEW LOOK.

BY BLAKE MILLER • PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS EDWARDS



Laura Casey knows her clients well. So well, in fact, that when a family with whom she'd previously worked purchased the lot that their Myers Park home would soon be built on, Casey was immediately enlisted to work directly with architect Christopher Phelps and builder Brian Gerrard of Gerrard Builders to help create a seamless, practical, and fitting design. "We had worked together on three previous homes," says Casey, "so I knew all of their idiosyncrasies and was able to communicate exactly what they wanted to the architect and builder."

What they wanted was more space for entertaining and, quite simply, life. "They'd outgrown their former home and wanted to tweak a few things in their new one," explains Casey of the young family of four. But the overall design aesthetic—a sophisticated, transitional design that was at once comfortable and functional by elegant—would remain the same, with updates in a few key spots. "They really wanted the home to be light and open, family friendly, not too formal," she adds. And while the homeowners loved the pieces from their old home, their new house was designed with custom interiors in mind that worked perfectly for the space as it was laid out in the design. "We didn't want to force the old furniture and accessories to work in a completely new space," Casey says.

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## LIGHT AND BRIGHT

Casey's design was all about brightness so she utilized creams and whites in varying textures and patterns.







## ONE OF THE HOMEOWNER'S BIGGEST MUST-HAVES?

A spacious laundry room, which doubles as a craft room: Casey designed ample room for storage while a large center island is the perfect spot for folding laundry, doing homework with the kids, or creating art projects.







Casey custom designed much of the cabinetry in the bathroom, which included a mirrored inlay to provide ample light to the space.







**From top:** Elegant Matouk bed linens create a stylish feel in the master bedroom, which is flooded with natural light. The couple's 10-year-old daughter wanted a room that was fun, but would grow with her. "We didn't want it to feel too young or dated," says Casey, who installed layers of pink that are both playful and chic.







The dining room boasts a dramatic chandelier by Currey & Company, which provides an instant elegance to the space. Custom-designed embroidery by Casey on the draperies feels fresh and sophisticated.







■ A Phillip Jeffries grasscloth creates a touch of warmth in the foyer, which leads straight to the back of the home and main living areas. ■

With that in mind, Casey sought out pieces that would be functional and practical for two young sons but also timeless and elegant. Such was the case with seating in the family room where durable, kid-friendly fabrics by Charles Stewart provide instant sophistication without any worry over it getting ruined. The layout is conducive to entertaining several people but also has great circulation—"Nothing is blocked off by an opposing sectional," says Casey—which added to the seamless flow of the large floorplan downstairs. In the kitchen, Casey opted for a cobalt blue vinyl fabric to cover the counter stools to make

clean-ups easy and painless, while in the breakfast nook white-washed wood dining chairs and table are not only durable but easy to wipe. Timeless neutrals in creams, pale blues and greens abound in the home, helping to keep the home bright.

Casey also wanted to take advantage of the home's natural light, an architectural element that was the highest priority while designing the family's new home. "They wanted a lot of windows in their living areas, so I didn't want to take away from that natural brightness," the designer says. Minimal window treatments, which help soften some of the architectural

details, complement the light without overshadowing it.

The design approach was the same in the master bedroom where large windows allow bright, natural light to highlight the elegant Matouk bed linens in classic neutrals. The combination of the lighting, bed linens, and smooth lines of the furniture creates an instant sense of relaxation; you feel as though you're enveloped in a cocoon of warmth.

In the end, the fourth time was the charm for the family. "Building this home was absolutely seamless," says Casey. "They truly got their happily ever after." ☺