

25 BEAUTIFUL HOMES

FRESH THINKING

Renovated forge | American new build | Artisan cottage

BRILLIANT BUYS
Chic looks for every room in the house

ADDING A TOUCH OF LUXURY
'We've been inspired by hotel style'

PICTURE PERFECT
Inventive ideas for displaying art



EAST MEETS WEST
Global fusion in a contemporary apartment



RECALL 27017

EXTERIOR TERRACE
This large outdoor space is perfect for entertaining. Idyll Home's Evora teak chair, £615, has a contemporary look



California DREAMING

Chrissy and Dave Butler created a chic new-build home that's filled with light and colour

FEATURE JANE BOWLES | PHOTOGRAPHY KAREN MILLET/CHILLI MEDIA





DINING AREA

Classic grey fittings and vibrant accents give this eclectic space a sophisticated, grown-up feel. Try Lakeland Furniture's Bergen Yellow plastic dining chair, £59.99. Painting cabinets in Farrow & Ball's Down Pipe estate eggshell, £60 per 2.5 litres, would give a similar effect.

KITCHEN

Shades of sea and sand evoke a cool coastal vibe.

The Hadley Tan bar stool, £149, Dwell, could also work with this scheme. Try the Hicks & Hicks Dynamic kitchen pendant light in light blue, £83

KITCHEN

Chrissy used elaborate Moroccan-style tiles to create a vibrant splashback.

Aziz wall tiles, £57sq m, Walls and Floors, are a good alternative

SITTING ROOM

A display of books and flowers adds character.

Cox & Cox's large two-tone blush vase, £30, would suit this space. The Mineral Warehouse sells polished agate geodes, from £11 each

SITTING ROOM

Decorative cushions make this window seat an inviting place to sit.

For colourful cushions, try the selection at Oka, from £44 each. The 6005 Zeus occasional table, £427, Nest, is equally as striking

Back in 2011, a work move caused Chrissy and Dave Butler and their four teenage children to relocate from Manhattan Beach in South Bay, Los Angeles. Having sold their house in California, they soon began to realise how much they missed having a home near the ocean.

'Two years later, I was browsing online with the vague idea of finding another beach house for summers and holidays when a listing sparked my interest,' says Chrissy. 'I could hardly believe my eyes – a three-storey house with an extra-wide frontage on one of the highly sought-after "walkstreets", just one block away from our previous home and a stone's throw from the ocean. The house was also for sale at a reasonable price, because the housing bubble had burst the previous year.' Chrissy showed the listing to Dave and they both agreed it was too good an opportunity to let slip away. 'Our offer was accepted within a few hours, and we signed the papers the following morning,' says Chrissy.

Although the couple liked the location and dimensions of the house, the internal layout didn't suit their lifestyle. 'We looked at whether we could salvage anything, and decided it would just be easier to tear it all down and start from scratch,' says Chrissy. She and Dave knew that

DISTINCTIVE



HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY

Detached new-build home
LOCATION Manhattan Beach, Los Angeles

ROOMS Hall, kitchen-diner/sitting room, family room, cloakroom, seven bedrooms (four en suite), bathroom

PURCHASED 2011
PREVIOUS PROPERTY

'We used to have a beach house just around the corner from here,' says Chrissy.



FAMILY ROOM

Chrissy chose a scheme of coastal-inspired coral and teal.

Loaf's Joney corner sofa in Adriatic washed cotton linen, £2,705, has the look of this one. Katrina coffee table, £329, Swoon Editions, would also work with this scheme. Blocks pink rug, £165, The Rugs Warehouse, is another geometric pastel rug

SITTING ROOM

A bold side table is an eye-catching feature.

For an alternative lamp, try the Heart of House Woodley Ombre ceramic Grey table lamp, £39.99, Argos



assembling the right team was essential to the success of the project. 'We were lucky enough to work with the amazingly talented Grant Fitzpatrick of KAA Design and Matt Wachtfogel, a well known builder here in South Bay,' says Chrissy. 'Their attention to detail was quite extraordinary – it was a great collaboration, and they came in right on schedule and on budget, which was amazing.' A key feature of the remodel was the open-plan kitchen, dining and living spaces, which give the house a sense of flow. 'The sitting room windows open out onto an interior courtyard, which gives the whole house a wonderful indoor-outdoor feel,' explains Chrissy.

Once the structural work was complete, Chrissy turned her attention to the decorating scheme. She enlisted the services of Parrish Chilcoat of Cameron Design and Joe Lucas of Lucas Studio. 'At the time the two designers were working together from Joe Lucas's LA store, Harbinger, so I was familiar with their style already,' explains Chrissy. 'Right from the start, they totally understood my thoughts about the house and the Pinterest boards I shared. I adore colour and I wanted to use it tastefully. I also wanted a coastal look, since we live so close to the ocean, but with plenty of grown-up, sophisticated touches. Rather than seashells

HALL

Patterned curtains enliven this otherwise neutral space. Kirby Puzzle fabric, £28.50m, Anna & Beau, is a bold choice

LANDING

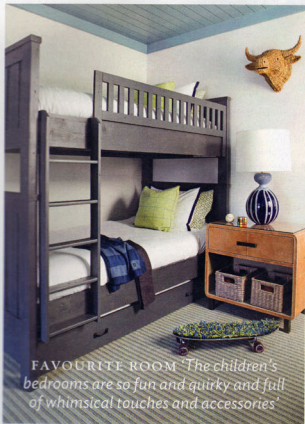
'This nook is our children's favourite place to read,' says Chrissy. Maisons du Monde sells yellow cushion covers, from £11.99 each. The Cotswold Company's seagrass storage basket, £25, is identical

CHILD'S BEDROOM

A smart grey and brown scheme strikes a grown-up note in this teenager's space. Chic Shack's Hampton bunk bed, £998, would look similar painted in Farrow & Ball's Mahogany estate eggshell, £60 per 2.5 litres. Little Greene's French Grey Dark intelligent eggshell, £59 per 2.5 litres, is a match for the ceiling colour

BATHROOM

Metallic wallpaper adds a touch of glamour. B&Q's Pembrey Silver Geometric wallpaper, £18 per roll, would look just as chic



FAVOURITE ROOM 'The children's bedrooms are so fun and quirky and full of whimsical touches and accessories'





everywhere, I was aiming for more of a Cape Cod beach house style, with lots of vibrant colour.'

Structural elements such as tongue-and-groove panelled ceilings, barn doors and classic cabinetry laid the foundation for the coastal scheme, which was then enhanced by a palette of teal, aquamarine and grey, complemented by a rainbow of accents including gold, rose pink, green and coral. Bespoke contemporary furniture was commissioned by Parrish Chilcoat, adding unique, eclectic touches to the scheme, softened with natural textiles including tweed and leather.

'Parrish occasionally presented me with bold choices that really pushed me out of my comfort zone, getting me to say yes to certain fabrics and quirky pieces of furniture which I would normally have said no to,' admits Chrissy. 'Looking back now, I'm so glad I agreed, because they've become my favourite pieces.'

Now that the house is complete, it's the ideal space for Chrissy and Dave's busy social and family life. 'Entertaining in this house is a breeze,' says Chrissy. 'We have the public walkstreet patio for times when we're feeling sociable and want to enjoy an early evening glass of wine with our neighbours. Then there's the inner courtyard for when we just want to be with family and friends. This really is the perfect house for us.' 🍷

MASTER BEDROOM Soft pastel tones make this a restful space.

Loaf's Berlin armchair in Chalky Pink Vintage velvet, £895, could also work here.

The White Company's Ardleigh double duvet cover, £100, is an elegant alternative

GUEST BEDROOM Mirrored furniture lends a sophisticated air.

For a chest of drawers like this, try the large three-drawer Venetian chest, £767, Out There Interiors. Very's Gallery Triangle Geo cushion, £24.99, is a similar design