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Anchored in the Elements

A husband-and-wife design duo dream up an earthy getaway in North Scottsdale.

BY CARLY SCHOLL
PHOTOGRAPHY BY KATE NELLE

NESTLED INTO THE DESERT TERRAIN, a stately Spanish Colonial-inspired abode invites guests to experience the soothing, serene atmosphere waiting inside. “We wanted to create a house with natural elements, clean modern lines and an elevated design aesthetic throughout each space,” explains designer Jillian Bader, who, along with her husband Brendan, was the creative mastermind behind this new-build project.

Here, the Baders explain the inspiration behind some of their favorite rooms in the house.

FAMILY ROOM

“For the main gathering space, we knew we wanted to stay with a neutral color palette for the furnishings that complemented the materials used throughout the home,” Jillian recalls. “Natural wood tones, soft linens and iron accents allowed for the house’s architecture to carry into the finishes in this space.” Worn wood beams sloping down from the pitched ceilings draw the eye toward a minimalistic hearth, where cozy furnishings—including a low-slung, deep-cushioned linen sofa and matching armchairs with modern metal frames—congregate in a ring of relaxation.



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ENTRYWAY

"We felt the entry space needed a natural stone moment, so we used limestone with a heavy mortar wash to bring a hint of the natural elements inside," Jillian notes of the striking facade that greets visitors upon arrival. "The home is set in the desert of North Scottsdale, so it was important for us to draw on the surrounding landscape. We reinforced that idea by also including touches of reclaimed wood beams and hardwood flooring in a soft, neutral tone."

Just beyond the home's entrance, a formal living room features an arrangement of comfortable furnishings that look through French doors over the front yard. "Because this area is right off the main entry, we framed the room openings with the limestone and hand-hewn beams for a really beautiful design detail," Jillian says.





Kitchen

"The overall floor plan of the kitchen and its flow into the great room makes this area the real anchor of the home," Brendan asserts. "It's the main gathering space and our goal was to make it feel warm, open and perfect for entertaining." The stylish-yet-rustic kitchen features custom glass-and-wood cabinetry, reclaimed wood ceiling beams and three sets of iron-and-glass custom doors that lead to a sprawling patio. "We included cutting-edge appliances, installed a natural stone backsplash and used a Roman clay finish on the walls for subtle depth," Brendan notes.



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Master Bathroom

"In order to create a truly stunning design moment for the homeowners, we placed a free-standing concrete tub in the center of the master bathroom in front of the oversized shower," Jillian says. "This space needed to be a place where the couple could truly relax and feel as if they were in a spa." To provide a sense of individuality in the common space, the designers also installed his-and-hers vanities, separate toilet rooms and dual-entrances for the shower, which is cloaked in glossy white tile and outfitted with two sets of water fixtures.

For more information, see Sources.

