

ca

HOME+DESIGN

20 incredible outdoor rooms

HOW THE
PATIO WAS
PERFECTED

WIN
a 2-night stay at
POST
RANCH
INN

Fresh
Air Fête
COOKING
WITH A TRUE
TASTEMAKER

MAY | JUNE 2012 \$4.99



californiahomedesign.com

This Los Angeles home
designed by Jennifer
Dyer proves that living
rooms don't necessarily
need to have walls. p. 76.



a warm front

A COUPLE
RAISED
ON PEACE
AND QUIET
BUILDS
A HOME
FIT FOR A
CROWD

By **KIRA COPLIN**
Photography by **JOHN ELLIS**
Styling by **SUNDAY HENDRICKSON**

Feel the Heat
In this Los Angeles home, living outside doesn't mean roughing it. A glittering chandelier and a built-in sofa with colorful cushions make taking a seat by the fireplace a comfortable experience.



growing up in Southern California in the late 1970s, Kelley Sheppard had a loving, but quiet, family home. "My dad just wasn't into entertaining," she says. Meanwhile, in rural Utah, Halston Brack was having a similar experience, where spending time with friends meant leaving the house. "Neither of our families had people over much," Kelley says. "And our homes weren't comfortable places for our friends to hang out, so we would go to other people's houses." The couple met in college and when they later married, they vowed to do it differently. "We wanted to create an old-fashioned home where people could stop by without calling ahead," Kelley explains. "A place where our kids' friends, as well as our own, would feel welcome."

The Bracks set their sights on the suburban West Los Angeles district of Westchester—a place they describe as a throwback to an era when neighbors knew each other by name and kids rode bicycles up and down the sidewalks. Although

Skin and Good Bones

Designer Jennifer Dyer mixed the glamorous look of Hollywood Regency with the bold, bright colors of the moment. Custom armchairs upholstered in green Dedar fabric inspired the rest of the living room's color palette, while the clean-lined front door was covered in a sexy snakeskin (left).



**DESIGN TIP:
EXTERIOR DECORATING**
Dyer says don't treat indoor and outdoor rooms differently—design them as part of the same color and style scheme to unify inside and out.



Party Prep

Featuring luxury appliances from Dacor and Gaggenau, the kitchen is a host's dream come true. The couple turned a narrow walkway off the kitchen into a pantry, complete with a sink and dishwasher, to make party prep and cleanup simple.

the area fit their vision of a friendly community, the 1950s-style house on their desired lot clashed with their dream of an open, contemporary home. To reconcile the two, the family enlisted Soler Architecture and Jennifer Dyer of Jeneration Interiors to create a very modern home in the old-fashioned neighborhood.

Kelley's one concern about going modern was keeping the house comfy for their three kids. "I didn't want it to be too cold," she says. Dyer alleviated any worries by incorporating funky chandeliers, bursts of bright color, graphic patterns and textural fabrics to make the interiors inviting. "People have a tendency to go with dark wood and white walls in many contemporary homes.



Open-Door Policy
Nearly 35 feet of sliding panels contribute to the integration of indoors and out. "The doors are always open with about 10 neighborhood kids running in and out," Dyer says.

"We wanted to create an old-fashioned home where people could stop by without calling ahead."

We wanted vibrant colors that could be seen from all parts of the house," says Dyer. Because the home's indoor and outdoor spaces are often separated by nothing more than a wall of glass, Dyer decided to decorate the outside areas as if they were interior rooms. "We hung chandeliers and installed wood under the eaves to achieve the effect of an outdoor ceiling," she says.

"When I think of the house, I think of the movie *Four Weddings and a Funeral*," Kelley says. "Big life events and milestones happen with family and friends around." And with birthday and engagement

celebrations, baby showers and end-of-the-school-year pool parties, the home is a hive of activity.

The luncheon after their youngest son's christening is a favorite family-home memory. Conversation and laughter filled the house as guests who had flown in from all corners of the country enjoyed the different rooms and outdoor spaces. "It was a sunny day, and we had all the doors open," Kelley recalls. "It felt really intimate even though there were about 60 people here. On days like that one, I realize there's no place I'd rather be than home."



In the Pink

A set of vintage chairs that the clients already owned inspired the color palette in the master bedroom. "The chairs were a bold magenta, so we decided to continue the hue throughout the room," Dyer says. ABOVE: In the master bath, most of the color is provided by the large windows framing the trees.



Good Vibrations

"It has great light and very good vibes," homeowner Kelley Brack says of the office. Although it looks vintage, the desk is actually a custom piece by Jeneration Interiors, and the glass chandelier is from Cyan Design.



Together by Design

The lot is long and narrow, which presented a challenge for creating spaces that encourage socializing. One solution: a bocce ball court. "It's a very social game and one that can be played while holding a glass of wine," Kelley says. "And because kids and adults can both play, it's perfect for us."



Playful Spaces

"The playroom is really fun," Dyer says of the kid-centric space, which is outfitted with Giali indoor-outdoor textiles and a multicolored hide rug by Kyle Bunting. "The kids love hanging out there because they can entertain themselves for hours."