

August
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Livingetc

Turn up **THE HEAT**

HOMES WITH SIZZLING IDEAS FOR SUMMER

NEW DESIGNS THAT HAVE US BUZZING
QUICK AND CHIC WEEKEND PROJECTS
URBAN EXTENSIONS TO INSPIRE
JEWEL-BOX DRESSING ROOMS

Peace and LOVE



EXTERIOR

A few cosmetic upgrades brought the house up to speed – such as power washing the wood that had turned orange. ‘Then we put a clear seal on top to make it last a little longer,’ says owner Hilary

PHOTOGRAPHY Rikki Snyder

STYLING Frances Bailey

WORDS Keith Flanagan

In the Hamptons, a designer created a calm and curated home that her family has fallen in love with

LIVING ROOM

Hilary's first purchase, a vintage coffee table, turned out to be a mood board. 'I based everything in the room off that table,' she says. 'I love the mix of the terrazzo top with the wood legs.'

Hanging **light fixture**, Doug Johnston. Custom **sofa**, Hilary Matt Interiors; in fabric by Pierre Frey. **Rug**, Art + Loom. **Coffee table** and patinated **vessels**; for similar, try Vinterior and Retrospective Interiors



DINING AREA

This casual space – used just as often for homework as for meals – reinforces the family's indoor-outdoor lifestyle. 'The chairs are actually outdoor chairs,' says Hilary of the easy-to-wipe-down design. 'You can sit on them in a wet bathing suit.'

Custom **dining table**, Hilary Matt Interiors. **Dining chairs**, Crate & Barrel. **Pendant**, Brightbound. **Fruit bowl**, The 1818 Collective. Seagrass **glasses**, Serena & Lily



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e was the hardest client I've ever had,' says New York interior designer Hilary Matt of her husband, David, who was 'very involved' in one of her latest projects – a year-round vacation home for her family (two boys, one dog) in a convenient and charming hamlet in the Hamptons. The process wasn't easy-breezy. Her husband had opinions. But luckily he shared the same vision as Hilary: for a beachy, cosy, liveable home for peaceful escapes from NYC. After a handful of debates on things such as kitchen worktops (in the end, Hilary got her pick after sending him off to the stone yard), the result was very much on brand. 'My house really embodies my own personal style, but it also showcases how Hilary Matt Interiors decorates for clients,' she says. 'A very user-friendly, family-friendly space that stands the test of time.'

The ranch-style house, complete with an upstairs extension and a large garden, was a manageable size and required only a few clever updates. 'The exterior of the house was very orange, so we power washed the whole outside to get a lighter colour,' says Hilary of the original wood cladding. After the back patio was expanded and an old shingle roof was replaced with sleek black metal – window frames were painted to match – you'd be fooled into thinking it was a new build.

It all happened at a speedy pace. After buying the house in April, Hilary moved in by summer, finishing the rest of the updates through September. 'It was crazy; we decorated it so quickly,' says Hilary. 'And that's where my Round Top stuff came in handy.' That 'stuff' was a starter pack she'd compiled and stored for the better part of a year from visits to Texas' beloved Original Round Top Antiques Fair, an essential pilgrimage for interior designers that stretches along 17 miles of highway, making it one of the largest in the country. 'I went there twice before I had actually purchased the home and I found a bunch of pieces that I knew I would one day use,' says Hilary. Those vintage finds – from shearling poufs to a

The download

THE OWNER/DESIGNER

For interior designer Hilary Matt, who has designed several houses in the Hamptons, this project was technically new ground, being the first home she's owned with her husband David.

The interiors epitomise her style, as she is known for functional, modern schemes that exude comfort, as well as her use of monochrome palettes.

THE PROPERTY

A ranch-style home in the Hamptons. The home opens onto a small foyer with a cloakroom and a living room that leads to a kitchen and dining area. Also on the ground floor are the main bedroom with en suite and two kids' rooms that share a bathroom. The first floor, an extension built by previous owners, includes a family room that doubles as a playground, plus two en-suite guest rooms.

terrazzo-topped coffee table – create special, often colourful, moments within the home's neutral, tactile palette.

Embracing the indoor-outdoor lifestyle of the Hamptons, Hilary got away with a palette of whites, taupes and creams by using performance fabrics, upholstering essential pieces, like the bright white living room sofa, in outdoor materials that are easy to maintain. It's all very relaxed – a thoughtful yet carefree home that lets Hilary relax, too.

Her sons, meanwhile, have no shortage of room to play. There's an indoor rock-climbing wall, a den that doubles as a playroom, a 's'mores pit' in the garden and a paved section of the driveway – 'most driveways in the Hamptons are gravel,' says Hilary – for basketball and riding bikes. Even so, the property still exudes the feeling of peaceful, beautiful living.

'Coming from New York City with all the craziness and the hustle and the bustle, this really is our special place – it's calming and serene,' says Hilary. And after that speedy renovation, their summer vacation pad is set for a lifetime.

hilarymatt.com





WE DID HAVE A
VERY LONG LIST OF THINGS
THAT THE HOUSE NEEDED
TO CHECK OFF SO
IT TOOK US A REALLY
LONG TIME TO FIND THIS
ONE, WHICH TICKED
ALMOST ALL THE BOXES

KITCHEN

After much debate, plus an in-person visit to a stone yard, Hilary convinced her husband that a 'camo'-style marble would round out the kitchen. 'I think the marble brings in all the colours of the home perfectly with the browns, beiges, whites and creams,' says Hilary.

Custom **joinery**, Ciuffo Cabinetry. **Appliances**, Wolf. **Bar stool**, David Gaynor Design. LH11 Helix **pendant**, Brightbound. Custom marble **worktops**, sourced from BAS Stone

POOL BATHROOM

Hilary wanted a casual aesthetic here. 'I was obsessed with hammered travertine, which you see on all sides of the sink,' she says. 'It's sort of this raw, unfinished edge, which I

thought was super cool, and felt very lived-in to me.'

Custom **basin** and **light fixture**, Hilary Matt Interiors. **Tap**, Kohler. Asymmetric **mirror**, Zara Home. **Vase**, Marni. Textured **wallpaper**, Phillip Jeffries

KIDS' BEDROOM

Hilary built in indoor-friendly activities for her sons. 'The rock climbing wall is a really fun element in the winter when they're inside, and even in the summer with their friends – I get nervous every time they're on there, but I think it looks cool!'

Custom **bunk bed**, Hilary Matt Interiors; made by New Day Woodwork. **Wallpaper**, Maya Romanoff. Up 50 **lounge chair** and **ottoman**, Gaetano Pesce for B&B Italia. **Light fixture**, Sazerac Stitches. **Rug**, Misha Carpet





THE NEUTRAL SCHEMES
WELCOME YOU IN WITH A
BEAUTIFUL WARMTH THAT'S
DOWN TO ALL THE
WONDERFUL TEXTURES

CLOAKROOM

'Powder rooms are spaces where you can be wild and crazy and different – it's like a little jewel box,' says Hilary of the darker palette. 'I found this beautiful slab of Cipollino that brought a bunch of different colours in, and I love the simplicity of making the sink out of it and then running the marble up the back wall.'

Marble, BAS Stone.
Sconces, Cuff Studio.
Vintage mirror, Willy Guhl.
Tap, Kallista

MAIN BEDROOM

'It's an escape for us,' says Hilary of this serene space. 'My husband always tells me how much he loves our bedroom and I wanted to make sure that that's how it felt in there.'

Custom bed, Hilary Matt interiors; in fabric by Pierre Frey. Cream Kurisuri throw,

Uniq'uity. Colina nightstand, Kelly Wearstler. Onyx table lamp, Williams Sonoma. Wallpaper, Élitis. Rug, Stark Carpet. Vintage artwork (on wall above bed); for similar, try Etsy. Vintage bench, try Vinterior

FAMILY ROOM

An upstairs den – mostly used as a kids' playroom – leaned into an informal feel thanks to the wallpaper Hilary had made based on a pebble-shaped tile she'd seen on Pinterest. 'I made my own sketch and I sent it to Porter Teleo and they created this beautiful paper,' says Hilary. 'It's funky and fun and was the perfect addition to the space.'

Custom wallpaper, Porter Teleo. Wicker light fixture, Atelier Vime. Rug, Misha Carpet. Sofa, Verellen. Sheer blinds, The Shade Store. Round Boa pouf, Hem. Paloma coffee table, Ellison Studios







COMING FROM NEW YORK CITY WITH
ALL THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE, THIS
REALLY IS OUR SPECIAL PLACE -
IT'S CALMING AND SERENE



POOL

'We kept the pool how it came,' says Hilary, who chose not to surround the perimeter in tiles. 'I really liked the way the grass is around the pool - we love as much grass as we can get since we're from the concrete jungle.'

Swan pool float, Sunnyslife. Sunloungers and parasols, all Harbour