

---

# These 8 Designers Share Their Most Luxurious Spaces

Alex Hendrickson (Edit)

Living rooms are meant to be spaces where you can entertain and relax, meaning they must, at once, be pretty and practical. Today, local talents walk us through eight stylish living spaces that are versatile and inspiring. From indoor-outdoor spaces that seamlessly flow together, to small spaces packed with pattern, these living rooms are designed to fit the needs of the families who occupy them, all while portraying their personal style. Take a look!

## *Combining styles*

"This family has a background in a traditional home and a love for more contemporary. We wanted to mix all of their furnishings together, old and new, to show an appreciation for both," says Roger Higgins of R. Higgins Interiors. The layering of differing design styles showcases the homeowners' personal style. The fireplace is a standout feature, while the clean, contemporary lines and architectural interest make it a work of art.



Roger was able to seamlessly incorporate new and old furnishings to showcase the homeowners' attraction to both contemporary and traditional styles. Image: R Higgins Interiors



Exposed firewood warms the contemporary fireplace.

### *Indoor meets outdoor*

The interior family room opens to a screened porch via large bi-fold doors that can fully open and bring the outdoors into the home. “Most of our clients are now looking for living spaces where they can easily flow between the interior family room and the screen porch,” Paul Hammond of Hammond & Brandt Builders explains. On the screened porch, warmth was added through the addition of rich wood on the ceilings and beams. Misti Fahr with Design Hive handled the interior design and thanks to her thoughtful choices, the space is somewhere the family can easily relax and entertain.





Woodstock Vintage Lumber supplied all of the screened porch ceiling and beams. Image: Reed Brown Photography

### *Beachfront*

"This beachfront property is not only a beautiful place to visit, but it was designed to hold up to the constant salty sea air, wet bathing suits and large family gatherings where spills are inevitable," explains Joanna Goodman, Director of Interiors at Christopher Architecture and Interiors. The circular design of the room means you can view the ocean from just about any spot. "The room is surrounded by a curved infinity edge swimming pool. To maximize views, embrace the ocean breeze and take full advantage of this unique feature, we designed motorized curved door panels and drapery to be able to open up completely and stack behind a wall with a flip of a switch."





The kitchen is centrally located in the home and opens to the dining room and two adjacent patio spaces. Image: Jack Gardner



From the outside looking in! Note how the doors are neatly tucked away allowing the indoors and outdoors to become one space. Image: Christopher Architecture Interiors

### *Practical and pretty*

Derek Van Mol of Van Mol Restoration reminds us that asking what the space will be used for and how can it function well is the perfect place to start. "Don't design for what you might do, design for everyday use," he says. "Pretty is great, but if your room is filled with furniture and knickknacks and is difficult to navigate, your goal of creating a warm and inviting space has failed." In this living space, pretty meets practical.



The beautiful ceiling beams are Derek's favorite part of the design, and we must agree! Image: Shannon Fontaine



The functionality of the living space came first.  
Image: Shannon Fontaine

### *Character and color*

"Selecting items that fit your lifestyle almost always guarantees that you will enjoy your space. Find foundational pieces that are quality and durable that you will love in 10 years. Use accessories, art and linens to add character and color – these are items that can easily change with whatever season of life you are experiencing," J&K Design Studio owner Karrie Seaton suggests. Karrie incorporates unexpected items, such as books used in creative ways, into every space she designs.





table might be,” Karrie tells us. Image: Abby Coyle



Art and decor bring personality into this space.

Image: Abby Coyle

### *Two spaces become one*

“Anything that makes for indoor-outdoor living is, to me, luxurious,” shares Marcelle Guilbeau. These adjoining spaces share a fireplace, which ties the rooms together. “You can enjoy the firelight and the company indoors and out – or both!” Marcelle says. The two gathering places offer a unique design perspective with simple finishes and contemporary lines.





With the doors open, the two spaces become one.  
Image: Gieves Anderson

### *Elegant and warm*

Warm neutrals soften the space and thoughtful finishes give it depth. Trex ceilings, wood floors and beautiful lighting complete the living room design. “A variety of lighting will enhance the accessories that make the room visually pleasing and ‘pretty,’” Kathleen Evers of K. Evers Interiors shares. The focal point of the room is the chandelier, which is reflected in the mirror that sits over the fireplace.

### RELATED: [A Comfortable Southern Home That Invites You In](#)



“The custom wall sconces and mirror over the fireplace were designed to enhance the Arctic Pear Chandelier from Ochre,” Kathleen explains. Image: David Martin | Creative Services



Custom built-ins and a stately mantle contribute to the design. Image: David Martin | Creative Services

### *Pattern play*

“Stick with neutrals, and let pillows, artwork and accessories do the talking. That way you still have the flexibility to swap items out seasonally, but the bones of the space stay the same. Planning and coordination are also key,” Kimberly Schmunk, Focus Builders’ interior designer, tells us. “By incorporating linen, velvets and both small and large prints, there’s a lot of pattern play. It’s a wonderful place to both relax and entertain.” The all-white foundation of the design allows the decor accents to shine.





“The dyed grasscloth wallpaper behind the shelving adds unexpected texture and color,” Kimberly explains. Image: Paige Rumore Photography



Patterns and colors in the fabric and accessories bring personality to the space. Image: Paige Rumore Photography

We are ready to relax with a good book in a stylish living space of our own!

\*\*\*\*\*

Discover more inspiring interiors here.

 **35**  
SHARES







Next Article ➔

Sign up for StyleBlueprint  
and discover more about your city!

EMAIL

SIGN UP TODAY! ➔

 **35**





