

# kind of traditional kind of not

Good bones deserve great decorating. There's plenty of both in one New Jersey home.

kind of traditional  
beadboard-back  
shelves

not so traditional  
ottoman with  
an abstract  
pattern

**family room** Classic meets cool! The walls are covered in grass cloth by Phillip Jeffries; the ottoman has an eye-catching Peter Dunham fabric. (Fun fact: The piece was made to measure so the family of four could all rest their feet there.) Old built-ins get modern flair with a display of accessories in various sizes and finishes. Oomphing up the traditional tan sectional from Lee Industries: a sprinkling of punchy pillows.

**K**erri Pilchik isn't afraid to mix things up—in the rooms of her home or in life. After 14 years working as a lawyer, she decided to go all in with her passion for interior design and started juggling classes while caring for her two kids. One of her very first projects: a four-bedroom, 2,400-square-foot Colonial in Ridgewood, NJ, that she and her husband, James, bought. Built in 1920, it had excellent period details, including high baseboard moldings and built-in cabinetry. "I wanted to bring that charm into the 21st century," says Kerri. A blend of bold colors, a lot of pattern play, and fun flourishes made it happen. Statement fabrics were also a thing. "If there's a window, nine times out of ten I'm using fabric around it," she says. While holding true to the house's original design, this bright and welcoming space is living proof that sometimes, the road not taken turns out to be the one that leads you home.



Although the house celebrated its 100th birthday this year, hanging out on the deep front porch never gets old.



James and Kerri with Maya 12, Jake, 10, and Isac  
Minnie Bagel, 3

**dining room** It's filled with family traditions, past and present. "We're Jewish, and we have Friday night dinner here," says Kerri. "On Sunday afternoons, we do a happy hour with crackers, cheese, wine, and juice." The marble-top table is a Craigslist score, the chairs (with backs featuring a John Robshaw print that Kerri added) and the credenza were gifts from her parents. The chandelier is by Foscarini.

not so traditional  
sleek acrylic chandelier



kind of traditional  
mid-century chairs

**kitchen** At 138 square feet, it's not the largest, but Kerri gave it major presence. She had the upper cabinets painted Simply White and the lower ones Coventry Gray, both by Benjamin Moore, for contrast. Extending the tile to the ceiling gave the illusion of height; an expanse of white quartz countertops with gray veining opened up the space. The Roman shade, made with Schumacher fabric, is there for the cheer.

“A window is a great spot to show off a pattern—and you don't need much fabric!”

—Kerri



kind of traditional  
subway tile backsplash

not so traditional  
cabinets in two colors



kind of traditional  
shade with a valance

not so traditional  
square table with a banquette

**breakfast nook** On the simple-yet-cute side, this area includes a Tolix-style chair from Industry West and a banquette from Ballard Designs that's upholstered in an outdoor fabric (so Kerri's homemade Bolognese sauce won't leave its mark). The oversize window is what Kerri calls a "fun free-for-all"—it holds a rotating display of vases, souvenirs, and the kids' art.

## main bedroom

The couple's third-floor retreat is boho lite. "I couldn't be too crazy because James had to be comfortable there, too!" says Kerri. Neutrals blend with blues, purples, and pinks, including lamphshades decked out in Madeline Weinrib fabric and a bench covered in a print from Schumacher. The silver leaf light fixture is by Aerin.

not so traditional  
graphic lamphshade

kind of traditional  
nailhead trim headboard



## bathroom

This used to be a bedroom, but a previous owner morphed it into a giant bathroom, much to the delight of tweens Maya and Jake. Kerri refreshed the white tile with a border of swirly Thibaut wallpaper, and added splashes of color with a Society6 shower curtain and a cushion-top bench—a sweet little spot for DIY pedis.

kind of traditional  
adjustable lowered shutters

not so traditional  
Lucite bench with cushion



## maya's bedroom

Like mother, like daughter: This is the bed frame Kerri slept on as a child. She chose the Schumacher shade fabric for its relative chicness, hoping it will stand the test of time. A chandelier from Pottery Barn Kids lends a vintage flourish that plays off the bed's vibe. Maya can often be found perched on the pouf by John Derian, making string bracelets.

not so traditional  
showstopper shades

kind of traditional  
diamond grid rug

