

# **BLENDING STYLES**

### **COASTAL LOOK, CLEAN LINES KEY TO REMODEL**

#### BY MARTINA SCHIMITSCHEK

hen Mike and Barbara decided it was time to remodel their 1970s La Jolla home, they had an idea of how they wanted the space to be used, but they differed on style.

"We have very different tastes," Barbara said.

He likes bold colors and she likes calm whites.

So the couple, who asked that their last names not be used, turned to Jackson Design & Remodeling to find a solution they both could live with. Senior interior designer Alison Green came up with a plan that mixes a coastal look with contemporary lines and incorporates lots of blues and whites in the three-bedroom, three-bathroom home. "They didn't want Cape Cod because they

like clean lines," Green said.

The single-story house was enlarged from 1,393 square feet to 2,281 square feet by enclosing a courtyard between the original living room and the master bedroom, incorporating outdoor space in front of the home, moving the garage from one side of the house to the other and the entry from the side of the home to its center

The couple had bought the home in 2011 and always knew they wanted to remodel. And while they had plans drawn up by an architect soon after they moved in, they decided to live in the house before committing to a remodel.

"By 2015, we decided we are planning to stay here for a while," Mike said. They started

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A slanted roof allows for a transom window over the folding doors to create a light and airy living room, which was originally an exterior courtyard. The remodel also included a new, more centered front entrance.



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The open kitchen is now the heart of the home and an example of how Jackson Design and Remodeling senior designer Alison Green blended the couple's differing styles using pops of color and subtle texture for a clean coastal look.

### La Jolla

**CONTINUED FROM 16** 

the project in July 2015. It was completed in December 2016.

The main living space is now an open area that takes advantage of the ocean view and the cool breezes. At the center is an enlarged kitchen with a light-colored, 10-by-5-foot quartz island, white cabinets and a shell-tile backsplash. The backsplash, with its mother-of-pearl sheen, is one of the ways Green added texture instead of color to create interest. The choice appealed to both Barbara and Mike.

"When we both agreed on something, we figured it must be good," Barbara quipped.

The island with comfortable seating for four was finished in a dark wood and with sturdy legs on each end to make it "more like a furniture piece," Green said. The bar chairs are



A collage of travel photos creates a colorful artwork above the buffet, which was designed with a patinated steel top.

a deep sky blue, a color Barbara was skeptical of at first. Now, she said, "the big island is my favorite thing in the house."

For the wall opposite the island, Green designed a buffet and wine bar topped with steel.

The metal has a bronze patina and adds more texture to the space. Above the buffet, Mike created a collage from photos of the couple's travels. The photos, which have been printed on glass, form a colorful patchwork that caters to Mike's sensibilities.

Beyond the kitchen is the newly formed living area that was originally the home's courtyard. Accordion doors connect the space with the deck, and a slanted ceiling allows for clerestory windows to bring in more natural light. The original living room is now the dining area, which has an open, beamed ceiling and a brick fireplace, both original to the house. Wide-planked engineered maple floors throughout the home tie the spaces together.

The home's side entry was converted into a small office for Mike. The space reflects his love for travel with more photos and a large map pinpointing all the places the couple have visited. A large, blue barn door closes the room. "I wanted to add something more rustic and fun," Green said of the

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A new sliding door gives access to the deck from the master bedroom and adds more natural light to the room. Wide-planked engineered maple-wood floors were installed throughout the home, adding warmth to the rooms and uniting the spaces.

## La Jolla

**CONTINUED FROM 18** 

door.

In the master bedroom, on the opposite side of the home, the color scheme turns from blue to green, coordinating with the greens in the master bathroom, which Mike said was nearly quadrupled in the remodel.

The spacious bathroom now has a large jetted tub and an equally roomy shower. A freestanding wall that Green called the "plumbing wall" separates the two. The wall houses the shower's body sprays, which were custom measured for the couple. A basket-weave marble tile used for the tub surround and along the bottom of the shower bench, which continues along the wall outside the shower, contains a green element. The shower tiles are a subtle shade of gray-green.



The bold powder room includes celestial map wallpaper that ties in with the owners' traveling spirit.

Two guest bedrooms, which share a Jack-and-Jill bath-room, are now where the garage was originally located. The bathroom floor's marble penny-round tiles were inspired by a hotel bathroom, Barbara said.

The guest rooms, which continue the blue coastal theme, are "reasonably sized to make people want to come but not stay too long," Mike joked.

The exterior of the home is partially clad in slate to give it a coastal feel, Green said. "It adds more texture and has a rustic look, and it weathers nicely over time," she said. An arched steel roof emphasizes the new entry. "Doing another gable seemed a bit harsh," Green said. "The arch softens the look."

"We love it," Barbara said.
"The house is really comfortable."

Martina Schimitschek is a San Diego freelance writer.