



# LIVING COLOR

TWO COLOR-CONSCIOUS DESIGNERS CREATE  
A VACATION RETREAT FOR OUT-OF-STATE  
CLIENTS THAT HITS ALL THE RIGHT NOTES.

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Life is different on holiday, especially in a place like Hobe Sound, where warm ocean breezes and swaying palm trees evoke a feeling of relaxation that permeates the soul. And it was here that New Jersey residents Tom and Barbara Byrne searched high and low for the right winter retreat before falling hard for a private compound that contains a sprawling hacienda-style home and two guest casitas around a lush courtyard with a swimming pool and fountain. “It was an instant attraction,” says Barbara, and although she wouldn’t change a single thing about their new club community, the house itself felt a little dark and old-fashioned for their liking. “I wanted our home to feel integrated, alive and warm.”

Enter designers Jackie Armour and Marcus Schult, who, working with a great deal of independence, brought the Byrnes’ vision to life in just four short months. Incorporating boisterous patterns, vibrant colors and treasures found around the world, the design duo aimed to create a global

feel with an upbeat ambience reflective of the couple’s personality and passion for traveling. “My mantra is: more is more,” Armour explains, noting the end result is lively and fun. “This house embodies our clients—with a Florida twist.”

Working within the specific time frame for the residence to be ready for the holiday season, Armour and Schult credit the dining room’s wallcovering as the main inspiration for the home’s interior direction. The Bamboo & Birds design by Bob Collins & Sons depicting blue parrot-like birds against a coral-and-white background was the perfect way to incorporate the warm hues of terra cotta used in the adjacent living room, while also making a lively statement against the dining area’s existing caned-panel chair railing trim. “This wallcovering can go very midcentury, but we took it in a very different direction,” says Armour, pointing to the casual open-back dining chairs in a non-traditional navy finish and the elegant collection of Delft porcelain displayed on a large open shelf with a bamboo-edge detail. Adds the designer: “The pottery pieces are not only timeless, but also very worldly.”

To create a vibrant winter retreat in Hobe Sound for homeowners Tom and Barbara Byrne, designers Jackie Armour and Marcus Schult turned to colorful prints for inspiration, such as the Bahama Palm pattern by Quadrille used for the family room’s draperies and throw pillows. Centering the space is a coffee table from Arhaus flanked by a pair of English roll arm lounge chairs by Lee Industries from Pineapples, Palms, Too, which are covered in a coordinating fabric from Kravet.



The bedroom suite includes a work space furnished with a bamboo writing desk refinished in satin cream with green pinstripes by Final Touch Finishing, and a brass lamp with a linen shade by Visual Comfort & Co. from Designers Buying Group. The print above the desk is from Patrick Day Home Gallery.



**Opposite:** On one side of the dining room, a British Colonial sideboard by Hickory White from Designers Buying Group displays a blue-and-white Chinese porcelain collection found at Patrick Day Home Gallery. On the wall are a mahogany-framed mirror with gold accents and a sconce from the owners' collection.

**Below:** A fantastical wallcovering aptly dubbed Bamboo & Birds by Bob Collins & Sons helps to establish a whimsical vibe conducive to lively conversations in the formal dining room. The blue birds in the pattern inspired the navy hue the designers selected for a set of rattan dining chairs by Selamat Designs. The rug is by Fibreworks from Flor Source.

Moving into the aforementioned living room saturated in a similar palette, a textured white rug with a raised geometric pattern, sheer Kravet draperies, and a neutral sofa all anchor the space while enhancing the juxtaposition against the papaya-colored walls. "We designed the living room around the use of a bold and classic Floridian color," says Schult. Adding layers of green, such as a pair of wood-carved spindle-back chairs covered in a light mossy floral-patterned fabric by Quadrille China Seas introduces another hue that relates to both the British Colonial artwork above the sofa and the central courtyard's lush greenery peeking in from outside the French doors.

To avoid diverting attention away from the architectural detail of the high ceiling in the comfortable family room, the designers flipped the script by selecting a neutral paint color as a crisp backdrop for a gallery wall and a pair of paprika-hued English roll arm swivel lounge chairs, a vibrant contrast to the neutral sofa. "It's still saturated with color and pattern, but on a different level," Schult says, referencing the bright accent pillows and the modern red-and-white palm pattern on the draperies. "Throughout the home, the rooms sort of waterfall into each other."



Walls painted in a classic melon color—Monticello Peach by Benjamin Moore from Sergio's Painting—make a striking impression in the living room. The vibrant hue is balanced by a light wool rug with a Moroccan-inspired raised pattern from Jack Walsh Carpets & Rugs, a neutral sofa, and a pair of wood armchairs covered in a green-and-white Quadrille fabric.



In a corner of the living room, stylish side chairs by Hickory Chair from Hive, Home, Gift & Garden are covered in a graphic fabric by Quadrille and surround a walnut game table with accent drawers and brass details, also by Hickory Chair from Designers Buying Group.

The kitchen nook called for a banquette, so the designers dreamt up a custom piece with wall-bracketed benches covered in woven navy fabric by Perennials from Lee Parker. The Roman shades are in a Quadrille fabric, and the porch-blue-painted chairs are by Palecek.



In the kitchen, the existing medium-toned wood cabinetry was refreshed with a coat of Benjamin Moore's Super White paint and paired with Carrara quartz perimeter counters, along with a classic glossy white beveled subway-tile backsplash that extends above the cabinetry to the ceiling crown. A granite countertop, with shades of blue and gray, offsets the center island and ties in nicely with the new floating banquette and Palecek rattan-frame chairs in a porch-blue finish. "From the first on-site visit of the residence, we felt that this sun-filled corner of the kitchen called for a custom banquette," says Armour. Keeping in line with the home's palette and use of patterns, the designers added throw pillows in complementary shades of green and mustard yellow to accentuate the banquette's rich navy fabric by Perennials.

The use of color and pattern comes full circle in the master suite with the most unexpected combinations of fabrics and textures. Setting the tropical scene, the designers first found the floral window treatment fabric by Raoul Textiles, also applied as decorative pillow accents, and used it as a jumping-off point to give this sprawling space a heightened level of interest and cultivated design. "The space feels connected to the rest of the house, but it truly has its own identity, as well," says Schult. The design team continued the Palm Beach-inspired look with a white bamboo writing desk with green pinstriping between the bamboo joints and a trellis-patterned rug by Hibernia.



The vibrant yellow-and-white patterned fabric on a pair of swivel lounge chairs by Jessica Charles introduces a bold accent color in the spacious, sunny master suite. The designers then added an upholstered headboard in a Veneto pattern by Quadrille as well as pillows and draperies in a Raoul Textiles fabric, done in the Robin's Egg colorway, from John Rosselli & Associates.

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**Opposite:** A pair of beach folding chairs with Sunbrella fabric and a ceramic garden stool, all from Ballard Designs, create a Slim Aarons-worthy setting by the pool that is accessible from the main home and both guest casitas.

**Below:** A wicker-and-cane sofa and chairs by Century Furniture from Designers Buying Group carry the British Colonial sensibility out onto the lanai. The reclaimed-teak coffee table and the sideboard are from Teak Warehouse; the ceramic garden stool is from Ballard Designs.



Not afraid to stop there, the designers incorporated two sunny yellow Quadrille China Seas fabrics—one on the backing of the bed’s headboard and another on the sitting room’s skirted lounge chairs—to elevate the sophisticated space with additional layers of pattern.

Armour and Schult were thrilled to unveil the new, more upbeat home in time for their clients to spend the holidays with their four grown children. “They did a very good job at pushing me to the edge of the fun side of Florida without going overboard,” says Barbara, noting she was always impressed with the team’s creative suggestions. “I wanted them to have a little fun with it, and they did a very good job.” But best of all, she explains, is that it really feels like home—a welcoming place to host their adult children and their companions. “As my husband said the other day, we don’t have to worry about those cold winters in New Jersey anymore,” Barbara says. “I’m sure we’ll have a lot of visitors.” ■