

THIS DETAIL-ORIENTED
SAN FRANCISCO HOME IS
PREPARED TO CELEBRATE
ALL OF LIFE'S LITTLE
JOYS—RIGHT NOW AND
DOWN THE ROAD.

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LUXE *for*

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LIFE

KRISTEN PEÑA WAS given the unique task of designing a bold, beautiful home for now...and making sure it would be suitable for later. "It's in San Francisco's Noe Valley neighborhood," she says, adding that it's commonly dubbed Stroller Valley since the 'hood is home to many young families. "While the clients did not have kids during this project, they were planning to and wanted to be sure that the home was beautiful but also a cozy, comfortable, and inclusive space for their three fur babies and human babies to come."

It was an ideal designer-client relationship. "You know those dream projects where the client selects you because they like your work, and then they one hundred percent trust you to do your thing with minimal changes? Well, this was the case. Dream home plus dream client equals amazing design," she says.

The couple are real bon vivants, with a joyful zest for life that is thoughtfully highlighted in a variety of design details. The dining room called for a banquette, as the couple shared early on that they love to sit next to each other on the "bench side" when at a restaurant, and now can sit together

for dinner each night. Exercise is a top priority, so the gym wasn't an afterthought, but given top billing on the top floor.

There's a quirky wine room, that not only houses their impressive wine collection but gives a glimpse into their humorous side with a surprising wallpaper choice. "This addition took place after I took them to tour the 2020 Decorators Showcase House, where we designed the primary bedroom and dressing room. A mention of 'Wouldn't it be nice to have a wine room?' sparked the conversation and the start of the design. They love to spend time in wine country and have an extensive collection, so it only seemed appropriate to custom design a space that could house their favorite wines in a beautiful, impressive way." And in a rarely-seen-in-San-Francisco moment, the outdoor shower and hot tub directly off the primary suite celebrates their work hard/play hard approach.

After a year-and-a-half renovation, they've called Kristen back for one more joyful space, which she's thrilled to be a part of: "We are currently back in the house now working on the dreamiest nursery!"



BALANCING ACT

The architecture of the living room has a bold, masculine feel that called for softer details. "We also knew we need some architectural pieces that spoke the same language as the house. By using the BDDW Deck Chair and custom Amuneal shelves we were able to achieve this," Kristen says. "A perfect balance of masculine and feminine."

HIGH CONTRAST

The kitchen is an artful blend of dark with light: A built-in bench clad in a Rose Uniacke textile stands in company with the beautiful craftsmanship of an oak Inyo Jacob May table (previous spread). At the island, Kristen says the stools by L.A. designer Thomas Hayes "are the edgy detail that gives the space confidence."



DOUBLE DUTY

The living room is a multifunctional space, suited for cozy TV watching on one side and more lounge-y book reading and wine sipping on the other side. "This space allows the couple to be together but also to be engaging in different activities," Kristen says. The sofa is by Croft House and the chandelier is Apparatus.





DETOX, THEN RETOX
 An enviable home gym is impressive, but quite simple with only the essentials: mirrors, a ballet bar, and only equipment that they'll actually use. "Allowing a great deal of space and air to stretch and rejuvenate with fresh air and plants is a dream," Kristen says. On the other hand, the wine room designed and fabricated with Chambers Art and Design is a showstopper. The hand-patina brass wall is a piece of art in and of itself, but the Astek wallpaper—featuring monkeys, well, imbibing—is the star. "The couple loves to have fun and if not in a custom wine room, then where?" The sofa is by Montauk Sofa, and pillows were custom-made in Zak and Fox textiles.



DOWN TO BUSINESS
 The home office gets a lot of use yet doesn't need to house a lot of normal office "stuff"—most essentials are tucked away in custom closets. "The Phillip Jeffries wallpaper was the perfect foundation of texture and color for the custom bookshelf we designed, which showcases the client's medical awards and treasures in a very clean and interesting way."



AN INTIMATE RETREAT

"The custom color-way Porter Teleo Kintsugi wallpaper in combination with the custom channel tufted velvet bed are both edgy and breathtaking," Kristen says. The use of black in the room is unexpected, sexy, and bold—something the designer says is the perfect backdrop for the couple's more private side.



COVER STAR

Make some room on your coffee table! This home is on the cover of our first book, *Home With Rue*, which will be published in Spring 2022 with Ten Speed Press. Featuring hundreds of our favorite spaces, it's a compendium of inspirational and accessible ideas to help anyone imagine, plan, and create the ultimate living space. penguinrandomhouse.com