

seaside serenity.

WRITTEN BY KIMBERLY OLSON | PHOTOGRAPH BY LINCOLN BARBOUR

THE DREAMLIKE HUES OF THE OREGON COAST HAVE SPECIAL POWERS TO SOOTHE THE SOUL, MAKING IT AN IDEAL GETAWAY LOCALE. So when one couple set out to decorate their beachfront vacation home, they called for its interior to be just as engaging as the coastal surroundings. "They have a very close family, and they desired a place where everybody could hang out and be comfortable together," says designer Jessica Helgerson. "It's a big house with a lot of public spaces, and we wanted to give each one its own distinct style and feeling."

The design team, led by Helgerson and Jesse Meyer, did just that. The main living room, situated on the top floor with expansive ocean views, is now the formal sitting area. To complement the vistas, the room has been kept light and airy, with a whisper-soft palette and elegant furnishings. "We wanted people to come right in and see through the room and out to the ocean, so the furniture is thin and delicate," says Helgerson. For example, a long, curved sofa that seems to float on slender, gently bowed legs was custom designed for the room, and is joined by graceful vintage chairs.

INTERIOR DESIGN: Jessica Helgerson, Jessica Helgerson Interior Design
BEDROOMS: 4 BATHROOMS: 5 SQUARE FEET: 7,000





UPSCALE ORGANIC
The local dining table—an antique from Bu Tree Source in Los Angeles—can easily accommodate parties large or small. Diners can choose from a mix of Wegner chairs, purchased at Hive and set beneath the room's glass Ochre chandelier. A telescope peers through Cowtan & Tout's linen draperies.



LITERARY LAIR

A midcentury rocker from Portland Modern invites reading or ocean gazing in the library. Kittinger Furniture Company chairs from Lawson-Fenning covered with cowhide from Ashbury Hides—both in L.A.—surround a vintage Paul McCobb table. Rugs from Taxi Designs in San Francisco add bursts of color.

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Also found on the top floor is the dining room, featuring a long wooden plank table for large family gatherings. A generous chandelier hangs overhead, dripping hand-blown glass teardrops. "It's amazing, especially up close, because within each drop, you can see the reflected ocean view," Helgeson says.

"The homeowners chose the design firm, in part, for its eco-friendly focus. "One of the ways that manifests itself is trying not to buy new pieces," Helgeson says. "We use a lot of vintage finds, or if we do introduce new things, we often design them ourselves and have them made locally in Portland, which gives our projects a sense of patina and put-togetherness."



VINTAGE VESTIBULE

The Shivelace desk in the office on the home's top level features a walnut surface and antique file drawers; the chair came from Deja Vu in Long Beach, California. Old machine parts found locally decorate the wall, while a rug made of vintage belts by London design house Tig adds texture.



SWING LOW

The designers used steel rope to suspend a drift boat from the ceiling in the lower-level living area. L.A.-based artist Heather Levee crafted the ceramic light fixtures in the bar area, with wiring done by local GKA Lighting, above Pierre Arseno-designed chairs.

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That's certainly the case in the playful living area on the lower floor, which is a testament to the team's talent for repurposing salvaged materials. In one sunny corner, a refurbished boat swings from the ceiling, offering a tempting spot to curl up with a book. "It's a worn wooden boat that we found online," Helgeson says. "It was bright orange and covered in sports stickers; we had the stickers peeled off, and we cut a notch into the side of the boat so you can climb into it. We had the existing wood rail refinished and had the rest of it painted white. Then we had a mattress made to fit inside it and added a bunch of pillows. It's super-cozy."



SLEEP POD

Jessica Helgeson Interior Design custom designed the bed in the mid-level guest bedroom, which features George Kovacs lamps from Metro Retro Furniture in Pasadena, Texas, stop-guillot tree-trunk side tables, Draperies from O Ecotextiles and Schumacher frame the view, sisal carpeting from Green Depot runs underfoot.



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Steps away from the hanging vessel lies a custom-made sofa, whose rustic cladding also had a previous life. "I live on a farm on Sauvie Island that had two barns on it," Helgeson says. "One of them was filled with old barn wood, and that's what we used to clad the sofa."

For casual group gatherings, the family convenes in the mid-level living room, or library, on the second floor. "It's fun and colorful," Helgeson says. "We found two natural-fiber embroidered straw rugs that look like a sombrero, and the room has a games table paired with vintage chairs."

With enchanting views from nearly every room and a gently lived-in feeling afforded by a mixture of custom-made and vintage treasures, the home has become an idyllic haven for unwinding and reconnecting with family. "It's really a pleasant place to be," Helgeson says. "It's comfortable and approachable—not too fancy—and everyone feels welcome here." **L**

SCENIC OUTLOOK

The terrace was furnished to reflect a beach feel without subtracting from the home's natural surroundings. Rodolfo Dordoni's mesh chairs for Ema, from Propriety in New York, surround distressed acacia wood block tables from Be Tree Source.