

WHEN SOUTH GOES *West*

A CLASSIC RUSTIC FAMILY
RETREAT IN MONTANA GETS A BIG
DOSE OF TEXAS STYLE.

By KRISTIN DOWDING
Photography by KARL NEUMANN
Styling by ERIKA JENNINGS

Majestic Mountains

With a breathtaking view of the Spanish Peaks, the Bradley family could not turn down this aptly placed après ski deck. The large fir and cedar wood beams allude to the strength of the structure, and the ledgestone fireplace makes it the perfect place to relax and keep warm after a long day of skiing.



RIGHT | Timeless Interior

In the entryway, natural materials abound. Architect Daryl Nourse created a strong foundation using Deep Creek ledgestone and reclaimed fir beams that tie into the exterior, along with a knotty alder trim. Hammered steel straps cover the doors over circle-sawn reclaimed oak planks for a look that will stand the test of time.

OPPOSITE | Amid the Trees

"We chose an aspen forest image, and they printed it on wallpaper for us," interior designer Erika Jennings says of the wall treatment in the den from Leftbank Art. The chairs with pinstripe fabric are from Bernhardt. Erika says the upcycled side table is an "antique of sorts," created from a used metal drum. A cozy kilim-covered ottoman brings in additional color and texture to the space.



Everyone enjoys the occasional ski trip, but some people choose to make it a way of life. Wanting a cozy retreat in the mountains, the Bradley family commissioned interior designer Erika Jennings of Carole Sisson Design to design their 6,600-square-foot home to highlight their gorgeous views of the Spanish Peaks in Big Sky, Montana.

Southern Comforts

Originally from Texas, the Bradleys love tradition, so Erika took that into account when deciding the overall theme of the house. "It's a cross between mountain traditional and contemporary: a bit of rustic with a modernized traditional feel," she says.

For Family Gatherings

From the immense fireplace, made from Deep Creek ledgestone and boulders, to the quantity of comfy chairs surrounding the Restoration Hardware coffee table, this room says family. The vaulted ceilings with reclaimed fir beams and a huge window make you feel connected to the outdoors. The earthy fabrics on the sofa and wing chairs from Hancock and Moore tie into the natural elements.





Cook on the Bright Side

Spacious and bright, this area in the house was designed for family gatherings. The table attached to the granite countertop island was built as the family's replacement bar, to allow for visiting and conversation while meals are being prepared. The stone and distressed wood make the space look decorated and full without the need for many other décor items.



Scenic Dining

Fancy wallpaper and wall art are not needed when the great outdoors can be the dining room backdrop. With large windows that span almost the entire room, the barriers between the inside and outside worlds are broken down. The antler-shaped chandelier brightens the room, and the rich, artistic fabric chairs bring elegance to this forest dining experience.

Indeed, traditional rustic elements are scattered throughout the house in the form of wooden chandeliers, sheepskin rugs and stonewall fireplaces. The color scheme varies from room to room, but neutral tones are predominant, occasionally accented with dark and light blues and reds.

Natural Elements

An important aspect to the rustic, contemporary theme is the architecture of the house. Vaulted ceilings and wooden beams help create the look while ensuring the house is sturdy and stable. The house itself—made almost entirely of wood and stone—contributes to the country rustic theme, interiors aside.

The architect on this project, Daryl Nourse of Reid Smith Architects, says, “The first thing to grab you is the entry roof . . . It has a heavy timber design and is a bit overscaled to really pop the entry and grab your eye on approach.” The wood throughout the house has different stains and distressed states that create unique wall designs. The stone serves the same purpose, eliminating the need for additional decoration.



Family First

In the South, loving tradition means also loving family, so Erika made sure to incorporate comfort into the design of the home for frequent family gatherings. “The most important aspect of design is to nail what the clients want. Understanding what makes them feel at home will create something beautiful and functional for the family,” Erika says. There are five guest suites—some of which contain bunk beds—to house family members and other guests during ski trips and holidays. The multiple fireplaces and cushy chairs make every room in the house perfect for valued family time.



Cozy Corners

Wanting their space optimized for family use, the Bradleys employed a creative bunk bed design. With perpendicular beds, the design is both beautiful and functional. Dark blues and browns complement the natural feel of the décor and make everything look cohesive.



ABOVE | Decorative Texture

Though it looks as if individual pieces of wood adorn the bathroom walls, this wall covering actually comes in large tile format, making it easier to create than it looks. The placement of the different stains of wood makes this wall more of an art piece. The sink is made of genuine stone and brings another natural element into the home.

LEFT | Don't Run Out of Steam

What better way to warm up and relax after a long day in the snow than with a steam room? This one was made with a combination of large Deep Creek ledgerstone and Deep Creek boulder, along with reclaimed fir lintel over the openings. A stone slab bench with a cut-stone tile was used for the interior, Daryl says.

OPPOSITE | No Stone Unturned

Paramount to the beauty and elegance of the interiors are the chandeliers that hang throughout the home. Candle-shaped bulbs like these on the chandelier from Visual Comforts cohere with the rustic theme of the house. The fuzzy pillows and fur-like fabric from Jabb covering the headboard balance out the ruggedness of the Deep Creek ledgerstone wall.



“It’s a cross between mountain traditional and contemporary: a bit of rustic with a modernized traditional feel.”—Erika Jennings

Into the Woods

The snow adds natural beauty to this already majestic home with a traditional gable roof. The foundation is primarily made of fir and cedar wood, and Deep Creek ledgestone. The contrast between the materials is welcomed, as they are cohesive and provide wonderful texture.

Project Credits

Interior design by Carole Sisson Designs
Architecture by Reid Smith Architects
Construction by Big Sky Build



“The first thing to grab you is the entry roof ... It has a heavy timber design and is a bit overscaled to really pop the entry and grab your eye on approach.”—Daryl Nourse
