

ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BY TIFFANY HORTON, HORTON DESIGN STUDIOS
PHOTOS BY MATT CORNELIUS



As a professional in the housing industry, it probably comes as no surprise that Lynlee Harvey's personal home is a standout. Nor is it a surprise that her attention to detail is abundant throughout the contemporary space.

The detail that is immediately noticeable upon entry is how the natural light saturates each room in a very inviting way. It is the use of large windows and a neutral palette that allow the outside light to highlight minimalistic details such as sleek trim, light toned wood floors and champagne gold metal accents. "I work from here, so I'm literally taking in my surroundings all the time. And [the neutral color palette and large windows] help me be more creative," explained Harvey.

Even in this open-concept space, Harvey has brought a sense of warmth by creating multiple conversation groupings and eating areas. The first grouping you see when you enter is four identical chairs placed around a marble coffee table and anchored by a textured gray and white rug. The upholstered chairs with their rounded open backs and cushioned seats look like the perfect place to hang out and talk with friends or flip through a magazine. "I like this seating area. I don't watch TV, so I wanted someplace other than my office or where the kids are watching TV that I could sit and read a magazine if time allows," Harvey said. "I like a couple of different seating areas rather than just one big one. I don't do formal spaces personally, even though a lot of my clients

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do, because I really like a space or a home that you're going to use and live in every space every day."

Looking across the main area of the house, you might almost miss the kitchen. It has been so seamlessly integrated into the space that it feels polished and elegant, instead of utilitarian. The kitchen island is made of strips of wood that were carefully crafted by Harvey's cabinetmaker and then each artfully placed so the grain of the wood lines up perfectly, disguising the drawers and creating a piece that feels much more like high-end furniture than a kitchen island. To further create the illusion of space and allow for an abundance of natural light, Harvey eliminated upper cabinets and instead placed three oversized windows on the wall behind her stove. She offset the elimination of this extra bank of cabinets by designing the adjoining pantry in a way that maximizes the storage inside. She also chose not to put a door between the kitchen and pantry, another design detail



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that is repeated throughout the house and eliminates the clutter and congestion doors often bring to a space.

Turning from the kitchen towards the rest of the room, you see a large white dining table flanked with black velvet chairs, as well as the family living area. In the living area, the neutral color scheme continues drawing your eye toward the fireplace, which is flanked on either side by hallways to the bedroom areas of the home. Instead of traditional gas logs, Harvey opted for the modern look of fireballs and says both she and the kids really enjoy the ease and look of the gas inserts adding, "Brown (Harvey's son) wants to sit by the fire every morning, so he gets up at 6:00 to sit by the fire before he has to get ready for the day."

On the way down the hall to the kids' space, you pass the laundry room. It was strategically placed so that it connects the



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kids' hall and the master bedroom hall, making it accessible to everyone in the house. "Actually, how I started doing plans was over the laundry room. We lived in a house on Olive Street and our laundry was in our bedroom in an old, converted closet. I did all of my laundry right by my closet, my bathroom and my room," explained Harvey. "So then when I started looking for plans to build [our first house], I couldn't find anything I liked where the laundry room was located. So, that's literally how I started. Finally, I was like, 'I'll just draw my own,' and here I am." Not only is the location of the laundry room ideal, but in this space, Harvey added a sense of whimsy to make the mundane task a bit more inviting. She chose fun green tile that she then coordinated with a soft green paint for the cabinets, interesting light fixtures, and she had the ceiling wallpapered with a tonal, abstract gray and white paper. "I like for utilitarian spaces to be pretty too. It makes me happy when I walk in here, not just dreading it," she stated.

The Harvey children, Ava and Brown, both have very sophisticated rooms with private bathrooms. In the hallway leading to Brown's room, he selected a whimsical piece of art depicting a moose that has found its way inside a living room, emphasizing the



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idea that you are walking into the children's area of the home. The neutral theme of the house is carried into his room, but made more masculine by industrial lighting, darker wood tones in the furniture, and a dark green wall behind the bed. The adjoining bathroom is also given a masculine feel with beautiful dark counters, a black accent wall and black tile. Another highlight to the space is the dual showerheads in the shower, which was Brown's one request for his new space. Just beyond Brown's room is the playroom, although now that the kids are bigger, it is



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really more of a teen hangout. The moody green walls and green velvet seating pieces create a cool space with just enough room for Brown and Ava to watch TV or spend time with friends.

Ava's room is light and airy like the rest of the house, with a brass canopy bed and dusty blue grass cloth to add femininity to the space. Flanking each side of Ava's bed are two beautiful antique chinoiserie lamps Harvey saved from her grandmother's house and updated by simply changing out the lampshades for a more current fabric and shape. Ava also has a daybed that doubles as a sofa, space for sleepovers and a desk area. However, probably the most exciting element for a teen girl is her large walk-in closet, complete with ample built-ins and fun light fixtures.

The master bedroom has French doors leading to a private porch. The doors allow the bedroom to be filled with natural light. Behind the bedroom is the master bath

with two separate vanity areas and two separate closets. White marble tile details both the floor and the shower walls. For the smaller of the two closets, you head down a short hallway perfectly accented by a small, square window. The larger of the two closets is just to the left of the shower. It has been painted gray and hosts a two-tier chandelier for added emphasis. Both closets have been further detailed using built-in drawers, shelves for clothes and shoes, as well as perfectly appointed spots for everything, even the suitcases.

The old adage of "A place for everything and everything in its place" certainly applies to the Harveys' home. Through her experience in building, designing and living thoughtfully through each of her previous homes, Lynlee Harvey has used her attention to detail to create the perfect place for her family to call home. ①



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