

MODERN LUXURY

RIVIERA

ORANGE COUNTY

SETTING UP HOUSE

THE MOST SUBLIME
SANCTUARIES ACROSS
THE NATION

AIR TIME

VIRGIL ABLOH'S
TAKE ON
SUITING UP

ON THE RECORD

THE CHAINSMOKERS
CHECK IN

HOME DESIGN
**A SHORE
THING**

A Corona del Mar fixer-upper
transforms into the perfect
seaside home.

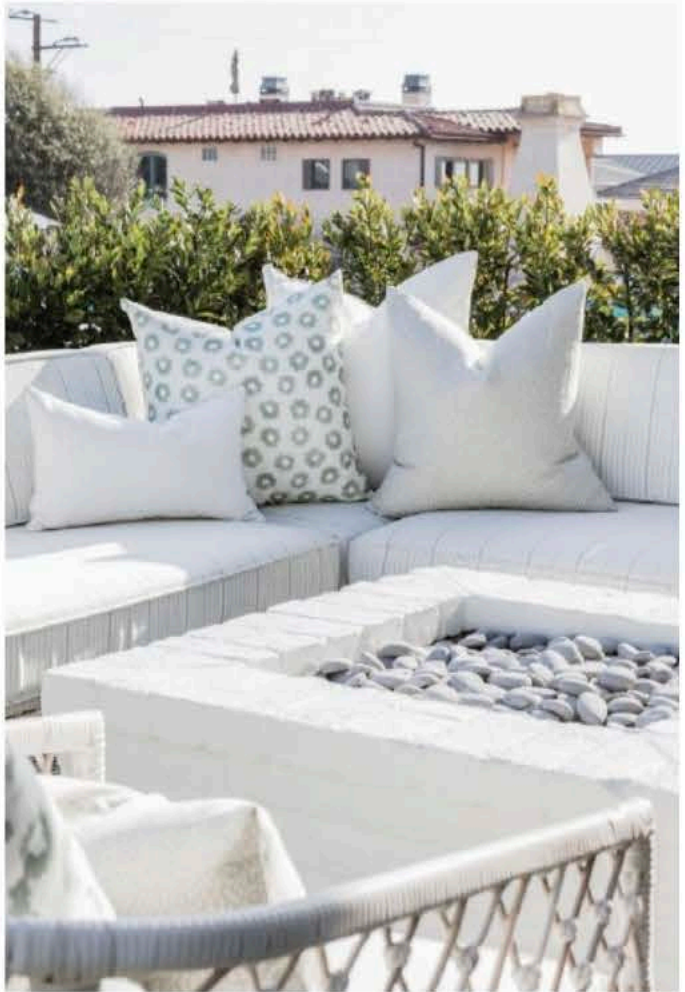
BY ELA SATHERN
PHOTOGRAPHED BY VANESSA LENTINE

Custom cabinetry
and wall paneling
work beautifully
together in the living
room and other areas
in the home.



The main artwork that sits in the dining room is a custom commissioned piece by Nashville-based artist Jenn Thatcher.

Mindy Gayer Design Co. left no detail unturned. All new hardscape and landscape designed by Karen D. Miller Garden Design adds charm to the interior courtyard (pictured at far right and opposite page, bottom left).



“Nothing stayed in its original state. Absolutely nothing,” says interior designer Mindy Gayer (mindygayer.com) of this three-story remodel located one block from the ocean, and perfectly situated in the heart of Corona del Mar village. Working with Dana Point’s Pete Black Construction, Gayer gave the home a full makeover. “We took the house down to the studs and gave much-needed love into redesigning every nook and cranny.”

Catering to the new homeowner’s tastes, Gayer and her team chose a very neutral palette (lots of white) juxtaposed with feminine details, materials, furnishings, accessories and artwork. “Our SoCal-born and -raised client loves vintage and is a lover of all things pink and all things ladylike, so we incorporated sweet details throughout that would make her feel most at home,” she says.

Wide-plank engineered white oak flooring sourced from Warren Christopher (wchristopher.com) is laid throughout. Every rug in the home is vintage and one of a kind, and they were actually selected before purchasing any of the furniture in the house. “We wanted to hone in on finding the perfect vintage rugs first to help anchor each space, furniture pieces and artwork,” Gayer notes.

On the top floor you’ll find office space, a workout room, a master bedroom and bath, and a rooftop deck. The office design is tailored to the beachy-chic neighborhood surroundings. Gayer started with a vintage rug and then

added a custom slipcovered sofa, a series of natural wood wall hangings and a woven pendant to draw your eye up to the ceiling and white oak beam.

In the master bedroom, a vintage kilim rug sets the tone. “The master bedroom is one of my favorite spaces in all the house. It is layered with so many good pieces, colors and textiles,” she says. “The bubble-inspired bedside sconces are pieces of art in and of themselves, paired with a beautiful framed photograph from Petros Koublis above the bed.” The master bath features Calacatta marble mosaic flooring offering a more modern feel, paired with a custom white oak vanity and Calacatta shower walls, countertop and tub ledge. The walls are treated with shiplap millwork and juxtaposed with brass and polished nickel accents for the plumbing fixtures, lighting and mirrors. All plumbing fixtures and the free-standing tub are from Kallista (kallista.com). The runner and wooden stool are both vintage.

Calacatta marble countertops are also found in the kitchen on the first floor, along with Calacatta marble picket-shaped backsplash tile. Gorgeous brass and antiqued glass pendants from The Urban Electric Co. (urbanelectric.com) hang and custom brass cabinetry leg details add a little something special, along with a La Cornue (lacornueusa.com) French range and a brass Waterworks (waterworks.com) faucet. The first floor is anchored by the front patio, entry,

powder room, family room and nook, and laundry room, plus an interior courtyard designed by Karen D. Miller Garden Design (kdmgardendesign.com).

“The laundry room is also one of our favorite rooms, with no detail left unturned,” says Gayer. Handlaid zellige herringbone flooring, a handpainted terra cotta backsplash tile, Farrow & Ball (farrow-ball.com) painted custom cabinetry and a quartz countertop keep things extra user-friendly.

On the middle floor, you find the guest bedroom full of cozy linens and textures, with a pop of pink, of course. The rug is vintage, the headboard and pillows are all custom, and the framed photography above the bed is by Marc Gabor. The guest bathroom is clad in gray cement tile floors, handmade ceramic pendants, zellige shower wall tile and shiplap millwork accents on the tub and vanity wall. “We loved adding a leaning ladder for guest towels, and to make it feel like a fun space for guests to make themselves at home,” Gayer adds.

To give the exterior of the house more charm and curb appeal, all new siding, doors, windows, roofing and lighting were added. “After our client spent months looking for the perfect fixer-upper home, Corona del Mar ended up being the perfect place for her to call home,” says Gayer. “It’s a superfriendly community and neighborhood, and now she has the cutest house on the block!” ♦

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-MINDY GAYER