



FAIRY-TALE ENDING

ON A QUIET NASHVILLE STREET, BEHIND A WHITE PICKET FENCE, THERE LIVED A HAPPY FAMILY OF FOUR. THE SETTING WAS IDYLIC, BUT THEY DREAMT OF BRIGHTER COLORS, BOLDER PATTERNS, AND A FEW MODERN TOUCHES.



OUR STORY BEGINS when Betsy and Ryan Chapman moved into their 1929 home. “We discovered secret nooks and creaky floors,” Betsy says. “Like wrinkles, they’re evidence of a long life, and they warrant respect.” The Chapmans wanted to preserve as much of that original detailing as possible—moldings, an ornate mantel, and even those creaky floors. However, stuffy old-fashioned rooms would not do.

Interior designer Hannah Crowell came to the rescue, tasked with uniting the Georgian Revival architecture with the family’s need for kid-friendly surfaces, Ryan’s love for midcentury modern furniture, and the contemporary patterns and colors they craved. The result, Betsy says, is modern, fun, and energetic. A happy ending, indeed.

LIGHT SHOW

The mod shape of the chandelier contrasts with its traditional antique silver finish.

The stately dark balustrade table and tufted chairs could have made the dining room skew sedate if not for the dramatically scaled wallpaper, Carnival by Christopher Farr. With springy green and blue providing plenty of pretty, you don't need window treatments or artwork.

BY LINDA O'KEEFE PHOTOS DAVID LAND PRODUCED BY JENNIFER BERNO DECLEENE
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NEW LOOK
An Eero Saarinen Womb Chair, originally designed in 1948, gets an update with abstract fabric.



WALL
CORNFORTH
WHITE
FARROW
& BALL

"We wanted the living room to be a clean-lined, uncluttered space where we could be with the kids," Betsy says. The plush, low-slung furnishings, ensure cushy seating and unobstructed views of the room's focal point: the original carved fireplace mantel.



Geometric black-and-white watercolors, *above*, hang over a Restoration Hardware console inspired by vintage typesetter's cabinets. Leaning family photos and favorite artwork against the wall, rather than hanging them, makes it easy to switch them out on a whim. *Right*: Ryan and Betsy Chapman with 4-year-old Vivian and 14-month-old Bo.

The Chapmans kept the original footprint of the kitchen but redesigned the layout to use space more efficiently. A wall of new cabinets accommodates a built-in coffeemaker, wine cubby, and charging station out in the open. Behind closed doors there's a microwave and TV.

TOUCH UP
Gold hardware adds glamour to cabinets painted Sherwin-Williams' Conservative Gray.

MIX IT UP
A bright yellow finish bridges the gap between traditional Windsor chairs and an iconic midcentury pedestal table.





HALL LANDING
Before the renovation, the upstairs hallway ended at a wall of bookshelves. A new entrance to the kids' bathroom added utility to the high-traffic landing.



WALL
PINEAPPLE
WALLPAPER
BY RIFLE
PAPER CO.
HYGGEAND
WEST.COM

KIDS' BATHROOM
The dog wallpaper in the kids' shared bathroom feels at once retro and modern. They chose the Best In Show wallpaper by Osborne & Little because it's gender neutral.



POWDER ROOM
The floor tile and wallpaper pair well because of their similar scale and hexagonal grid setting. Fun fact: Pineapples symbolize hospitality.



TOP IT OFF
Use washi tape to design a rooftop for a DIY dollhouse.

DOLLHOUSE
Designer Hannah Crowell customized storage cubes from Home Depot with the scraps of wallpapers and fabrics used elsewhere in the house. Insta-playtime. ■



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shades kick
in color and
personality.

WALL
WHITE
DOGWOOD
SW 6315
SHERWIN-
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This shade of pink has been Vivian's room color since she was born. "It's not too in-your-face. It's livable. The antique rug plays with the room's colors, but it also feels treasured. I imagine her liking all the elements as she continues to grow," Betsy says. "At least that's the plan!"