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**187**  
IDEAS FOR YOUR HOME

# Maine Attraction

A carefree family of five carves out a piece of paradise in a relaxed, fuss-free charmer on the coast

KENNEBUNK,  
MAINE



The sectional is from Wesley Hall. The rug is from Dash & Albert.

When a couple with three young kids went looking

for a summer house, Maine's southern coast beckoned. And after happening upon a prime property where the Kennebunk River meets the Atlantic, they knew they'd found their place. The husband even remembered the spot from his own youth. "My grandfather and I sat out there and watched the boats go by," he recalls. With architect Brian Beaudette and designer Nancy Boughton on board for the renovations, the couple's mandate was crystal clear: Keep the focus on the views. "My goal was not to compete with the outdoors, but to create a complementary interior," says Boughton. Here's how they fashioned the perfect escape.

## 1 REUSE AND RECYCLE.

Boughton repurposed a table as an ottoman in the family room, trimming and staining the legs and setting a tray into the upholstered top. "I like to reuse things when possible," she says. "This lets you prop your feet up but also put a drink down." ▶

## 2 CREATE AN OUTDOOR ROOM.

To forge a connection between the main house and the carriage house, landscape designer Ted Carter created a pseudo courtyard, partially shaded by a small, covered pergola. The courtyard offers diverging paths that lead to the ocean, river, and main entrance. "It unites everything outside," says Beaudette.



The siding is painted Stonington Gray by Benjamin Moore.



The bench is from Richardson Allen. The fish wall art is by Tyson M. Weiss.

The sofas are from Lee Industries; the rug is by Landry & Arcari. The pillows are by Cowtan & Tout.



## 3 SET THE TONE.

In keeping with the couple's request for calm, unfussy interiors, Boughton and Beaudette gave the front hall a clean, relaxed attitude, with an inviting bench and a pair of Dutch doors. Baskets hold everything from towels to flip-flops. "There's so much to see outside that they wanted to make sure the interiors reflected a sense of continuity," says Boughton.

## 4 GO BACK TO NATURE.

The existing living room fireplace was due for a makeover, so after replacing the mantel and surround, Boughton sent the children out to hunt for beach stones, which were then crafted into an inset that frames the firebox. "It changed the whole feel of the room," she says. "Plus, it allowed us to truly incorporate the family into the design."

The chairs are upholstered in Sunbrella fabric. The rug is from Ethan Allen.



The cabinets are painted White Dove by Benjamin Moore. The range is from KitchenAid.



**5 MAKE IT LAST.** Boughton utilized outdoor fabrics throughout, like the marine vinyl that covers the ottoman in the carriage house sitting room. "It has the same kind of graining as calfskin, but doesn't wear as easily," she says. She had the rug made into a bull's-eye pattern. "It's polypropylene—it doesn't mind wet, and it won't fade."

“EVEN A LITTLE BIT OF COLOR CAN HAVE A HUGE IMPACT”

**6 LIVEN UP WITH COLOR.** Custom, crisp white cabinetry in the kitchen keeps clutter to a minimum, while the wood floors make cleaning up after sandy feet a breeze. To bring a pop of color into the room, Boughton reflected the seaside palette with counters made of recycled glass and cement and a vibrant glass subway tile backsplash. "Even a little bit of color can have a huge impact," she says. ▶

“ WE TRULY INCORPORATED THE WHOLE FAMILY INTO THE DESIGN ”



The quilts are by Jane Churchill for Cowtan & Tout. The rug is from Stark. The walls are painted Grand Rapids by Benjamin Moore.

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