

GAME time

These playful spots will speak to the kid in you!

word search wall

"You have to give yourself permission to play around with design," says Jasmine Roth, who had this custom word search painted on a stairwell wall. She leaned into the game theme even harder with a Connect 4-inspired railing. "At first my husband was like, 'You've gone too far,' but now it makes us both smile."



scrabble room

Designer Lexi Westergard knew just what to hang in her Scrabble-obsessed client's Mesa, AZ, game room. The giant board, from RH, informed the rest of the decor. "We tied the pillows and rug to the pink and blue blocks so the design felt cohesive," she says. So, does anyone really use the board? "All the time!"



basement playground

With "buildings" inspired by New York City, this Chevy Chase, MD, basement takes the idea of a playhouse to a new level. "My clients wanted to bring big-city magic to their home," says Anne Gillyard of grOH! Playrooms. Monkey bars, a foam pit, and a climbing wall complete the cool setup.



FROM TOP: JOHN WOODCOCK; LAURA METZLER PHOTOGRAPHY

[fun decorating]

lego peninsula

"I'd been dreaming of putting Lego bricks in a kitchen since I saw the idea 10 years ago," says designer Racheal Jackson. She finally got the chance after moving into her Vancouver, WA, home. She stayed up all night stacking and then wedging pieces between the peninsula's trim.



RACHEAL JACKSON



indoor slide

This was a first for Austin, TX, architect Tim Brown, whose client suggested a slide as a way to connect a space between kids' rooms and the laundry. It's made by a company that supplies slides to firehouses. Now the whole family loves it, says Tim. "They even use it as a laundry chute!"



outdoor chess

Homeowner Candace Barber had been looking for a sophisticated but whimsical way to finish her Wilmington, NC, side yard. She built a chessboard using simple square pavers laid over gravel, then she added oversize game pieces from MegaChess. "I like bringing a little competition to a party," she says.