

VERMONT



Green State

Known for its makers, its craftspeople and its farmers, Vermont is a place where the air just feels fresher and time seems to slow down. Within this verdant haven is a flourishing design industry that looks to the land for answers. The outdoors commands attention with its lush mountains and woods, and the indoors can't help but heed to its bright ideas. *by* ABBY BIELAGUS

Designer Sarah Scales remakes a second home into a reflection of its inhabitants.
by ABBY BIELAGUS

All in the Family



Clockwise from top: The husband handcrafted the shelf, side tables and walnut surface that covers the ottoman in the living room; the stools around the kitchen island with woven seats are also from the husband's woodworking company, Sawtimber Woodworks.

From the outside, there is nothing in particular that sets this new construction apart from the other homes nestled in the Wildewood community in Stowe, Vermont. The three- and four-bedroom homes, set on the lush mountainside, each aim to complement the surrounding landscape with timber rafters and expansive windows. From the outside, they are meant to blend, and the interior cookie-cutter layouts offer little to stand out. That is before designer Sarah Scales (sarahscales.com) was tasked with warming



up the cold white walls and infusing the homeowner's personality into every space. Her clients, a New England-based family of five who love to ski, hike and swim, escape to Stowe from their suburban home throughout the year to enjoy the outdoors. They wanted this home to feel of them, with a vernacular that spoke to all of the seasons. And the husband just so happened to be a furniture maker.

He works under the studio name Sawtimber Woodworks, which he recently launched out of Weymouth. In the years leading up to this opening, his home's basement acted as storage and was filled with pieces he had made over the years, beginning with his time in woodworking school. Scales was able to weave his work throughout the home, adding his handmade items in every room. Also in that basement of his was an assortment of older furniture, some of which had been passed down from his wife's grandmother. Scales inventoried it all and incorporated pieces when it made sense, augmented with additional vintage finds and new modern pieces.

The design follows a theme of contrast from light to dark. Scales chose a warm white paint for the main spaces, which flow into one another, and the smaller, enclosed rooms provide a counterpoint with colors, patterns and textures. Natural tones, such as soft greens, calming blues, and warm beiges, are accented by bold hues like yellow and green in the bunk room, purple in the primary bedroom, hints of red in the family room, and orange in the covered deck. The



interplay between the airy white areas and the richly layered rooms creates a dynamic push and pull, drawing the inhabitants from one atmosphere to the other.

Art, lighting, wallpaper and window treatments create layers, depth and character. The basement features a collection of limited-edition prints from the Newport Folk Festival, gathered over many years of attending. Showcasing these prints, along with the many family heirlooms and handcrafted furniture, makes this home uniquely personal. It is a unified vision commemorating the family's shared history, as well as celebrating their future. The house feels as warm and welcoming after a day on the slopes as it feels refreshing in the warm summer air. It is a place for all seasons, but created specifically for a family of five.

Clockwise from top left: A console from Sawtimber Woodworks; the expansive covered deck, which features pops of orange; pattern and texture in the bedroom.

