

## STYLE WATCH



## Color Camouflage

A FAMILY ROOM WHERE THEY CAN LEAVE THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS UP TILL JANUARY AND SWEEP TOYS BEHIND THE SOFA.

BY MARNI ELYSE KATZ

The owners of this Wellesley home wanted their family room to exude a nonchalant, lived-in feel that reflects the vibrancy of their young family, while being elegant enough for entertaining. They also wanted a space that could handle multicolor Christmas tree lights in the holiday season (and a little bit beyond). Lily Flatley's solution was to create a warm, neutral shell populated with lush color and a mix of patterns. Drapery fabric by The Vale was the starting point. "The linen geometric stripe allowed me to pull in so many colors," the designer, who owns Lily Flatley Interiors, says. "The more colorful the space, the more the mess of toys—and various colors of Christmas lights—blend in."

**1** The **walls** and **millwork** are painted Benjamin Moore's White Oak, a pink-y beige. "Using two colors would look chopped up; I wanted a cohesive backdrop," Flatley says. To accentuate the effect, it's all done in a matte finish; the polished stone fireplace surround provides the sheen.

**2** Flatley prefers to layer **artwork** rather than hang static arrangements so owners can swap it out depending on the season. Here, abstract works by Renee Bouchon sit on either side of a richly colored vintage painting of a carousel that reminds the designer of the Flying Horses Carousel in Oak Bluffs.

**3** The designer opted for a single **drapery** panel for each window flanking the fireplace since the frame sits flush to the millwork.

"I didn't want to stack the window full of fabric," Flatley explains. "This adds balance to a not-quite-symmetrical composition."

**4** Custom **pillows** made from fabrics by small textile houses Alice Sergeant, Parker & Jules, and Imogen Heath Interiors offer abundant geometric and organic pattern in warm and cool tones.

**5** The teal **sectional**, upholstered in performance fabric, is centered on the fireplace, which makes sense visually and creates a long, narrow play space between it and the wall. "Kids like contained areas and it hides the toys," Flatley says.

**6** The cushion-top **ottoman** is family friendly thanks to its soft makeup, storage shelf, and performance upholstery fabric.