

The Home Designer

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Lastly, I needed to find a mix of interior styles and patterns to appeal both to the husband's Cuban roots, and the wife's Scandinavian sensibilities – not as easy task. I found common ground in a "collected" mix of motifs and furnishings celebrating their combined love of travel – Moroccan window patterns, Greek geometrics, island chevrons and Danish modern teaks. We employed a mix of custom furniture and a few catalog finds to achieve a "high/low" blend. I even added a few vintage pieces, like the 1960s accent chair I drove back from a Palm Springs scouting trip.

To keep it personal, I had my clients compile a selection of travel photos which I framed in oversized white lacquer and installed as a collective piece of art. We rounded out the look with lengths of linen

draperies, artisan pottery, a mid-century style sunburst mirror made from driftwood and natural woven shades. Everything has a hit of personality, and each element reinforces our "happy chic" vibe. Best of all, everything is durable and will stand the test of this busy family and their napping dog.

By looking to their collective past, my clients have a true family room to enjoy well into the future.

Get the look - Ideas to steal.

For a calm backdrop on walls to anchor brighter hits of color, try Benjamin Moore's Covington Gray or Stonington Gray flat emulsion.

Keep all millwork bright – and fingerprint proof – with Benjamin Moore's Super White in high gloss – most durable and washable.



Photos courtesy Brandon Neff Design



For floors, try a wool flat weave – natural fibers have better color saturation and wear beautifully. Try a rug pad for added comfort.

For upholstery, always look for kiln dried frames with a mix of both down and foam – the perfect combination of firmness and loft. Nothing sits like down.

To keep a large sectional from overwhelming the room, choose a fabric shade similar to the wall color – a simple trick to visually open the space.

Brandon Neff is a Bay Area based Interior Designer. He can be reached at BrandonNeffDesign.com or at brandonneffdesign@yahoo.com.

