

RUE

MAGAZINE YOUR PATHWAY TO STYLISH LIVING

EXCLUSIVE

At Home
With **KERRY
WASHINGTON**

ULTIMATE
KITCHENS,
BEDROOMS
& BATHS

Rising Up:
The Hottest Designers
with the Best Ideas

The Magic Mix:
How to Layer
Like a Pro

An Insider's Guide to
Furniture, Lighting,
Rugs & Paint



Showstopper
The dining room features the original paneling and a Liberty of London wall covering. A teak mid-century modern Bramin dining table was restored, and chairs were reupholstered in performance-grade fabric by Antiques & Modern in Berkeley, CA. Bonus: It comfortably seats 10 for all those family gatherings.

PALETTE PLEASER

Color blends modern and classic elements for a fresh take on a traditional Tudor.

INTERIOR DESIGN BY
THE RESIDENCY BUREAU
PHOTOGRAPHY BY KARA MERCER
CABINETRY BY NORWEGIAN NORTHWEST

Located in Seattle's University District, a picturesque neighborhood near the University of Washington, this 1915 Tudor sits within walking distance of retail stores, restaurants, and museums. "It's a vibrant area of the city with historic homes living side-by-side with student housing," says interior designer Amy Vroom of The Residency Bureau. "My clients and their three children lived down the street on the same block for 10 years and had walked by this house numerous times, commenting how amazing it would be if they could live there someday. When the previous owners decided to sell, they jumped at the chance."

The youthfulness of the neighborhood—along with the family's open-door policy for friends, family, and neighbors—would drive Amy's design plan. Her clients were charmed by the home's historic features but felt puzzled when it came to respecting the period details and incorporating their own personal style.

PRO TIPS

home highlights



To solve this puzzle, color was key. "Often, designers opt for a blank canvas approach when it comes to historical homes," the designer explains. "All the beautiful millwork and architectural details are done in a crisp white, and color goes on the furniture, art, and accessories. Here, we flipped the script: We turned the original—and incredible—millwork into the star of the show and brought stunning color to those timeless elements of the home."

She crafted a color palette based on one original detail. "We harkened to the lessons learned from the stained-glass windows—bringing color to the bones of the home, not just the accessories. But convincing my clients to paint all the millwork didn't happen easily. While

they weren't ones to shy away from color, it's a big investment and one that's not easy to change, so the hesitation was understandable," she says. "We went back and forth a couple of times trying to decide if we'd paint it. Ultimately, they saw the upside, took the risk, and absolutely love the results. It makes the millwork the hero."

Now, Amy says you might describe the home as "modernized timeless." "By bringing the historic elements of the home into VIP position and letting that inform the other design decisions, you get a home that responds to how a busy family lives today but without a single whiff of 'design trend.'"

Under Cover
"I took color inspiration from the original stained-glass windows," interior designer Amy Vroom says. "The choices we made with the millwork color and fabric selections really makes those sing." A custom radiator cover was made to mirror the trim detail and serves as a drop zone for keys or sunglasses.

PRO TIPS

home highlights



⌘ **Please Be Seated**
Amy maxed out the sitting area in the living room with a plush sofa, two vintage Halabala chairs, and two stools with hidden casters that allow them to move where needed for entertaining. "We grounded the space with a sisal carpet and layered a wool rug on top," she says. "I love the mix of colors and patterns in this room."



↑ **Game Time**

Just off the entry is the kids' room, a space that feels decidedly grown up and perfectly in line with the aesthetic of the home. This room received a light refresh with a new rug, a plaid window seat upholstered in Classic Cloth wool, and a game table. The rush chairs are vintage.

↓ **Corner Pocket**

The designer says the sunroom is her favorite spot in the house. "It's narrow, making furniture placement challenging for more than a couple of lounge chairs. I had built-in sofas made to match the bench in the kids' room and covered them with a washable linen. The Billy Baldwin-style vintage ottomans and vintage rug pair perfectly with Farrow & Ball's Setting Plaster No. 231 on the walls."



↑ **The Right Fit**

"The homeowners leaned toward a mid-century modern aesthetic, geometric patterns, and clean lines," says Amy, whose job was to bring this style into a beautifully traditional home. "The key was to meld those two styles in a way that felt aesthetically organic and not forced."

↓ **Orange You Glad?**

Upon entering the house, you're greeted with a textured wallcovering, the beautiful painted millwork (Farrow & Ball Oval Room Blue No. 85) and a vintage tiger-oak entry table. "We decided to paint the door to the kitchen for a go-big-or-go-home moment," Amy says. "At this point, they had already committed to painting the millwork, so why not?!"

