

THE HOME'S BLACK-AND-WHITE THEME is carried through to the living room. Janice sews pillow covers to throw in different pops of color throughout the year. The Morrors have had the reading chairs for 25 years and have recovered them at least five times.

Defining Character

A West Coast tract home is given a traditional colonial feel with handmade pieces, custom upgrades and fresh flower arrangements.

By Devlin Smith
Photography by Bret Gum
Styling by Staci Dumoski and Elise Portale
Floral and food styling by Janice Morrow

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hen Janice and Bill Morrow were house hunting, location was the top concern, so the couple jumped at the opportunity to purchase a home in a great neighborhood across the street from a park and close to where Janice grew up. Once the Newport Beach, California, home was theirs, the couple set out to transform it into the traditional colonial home of their dreams, spending nine months rebuilding the space with the help of Bill's father to suit not just their tastes but also the needs of the couple and their four children.

“Any season goes with black and white.”

“I love the homes in the South; I love homes that have a traditional feel to them,” Janice says. “I wanted one of those homes where when you drive up to it, it just feels happy and like it has history to it, even though we live in an area that’s fairly new, with not a lot of older homes like you would find on the East Coast or South. So I wanted that feeling of this home has been here for a really long time.”

More than 20 years, and numerous projects, later, the two-story house more than meets those goals. Open and spacious, the home exudes timeless warmth and charm to the family and friends who gather for meals at

THIS CHESS TABLE is a unique showplace for Janice’s collection of vintage crystal salt and pepper shakers.



THE BLACK-AND-WHITE CHECKERBOARD TABLE was built by Bill and was inspired by a piece Janice saw at MacKenzie-Childs’ New York store. Measuring 9 feet by 4.5 feet, the table is big enough to host the Morrows’ large family, which includes four children, a son-in-law, a young grandson, and nearby parents, siblings, nieces, nephews and close friends, who all regularly gather together for dinner.



WHEN THE CHECKERBOARD DINING TABLE WAS BUILT, the brown marble fireplace needed an update to complement the new piece. Janice spent about three weeks covering the fireplace in heart-shaped rocks and other stones she'd collected over the years. The pewter heart box was a wedding gift from her mother and holds two hearts that were a 25th-anniversary gift from her husband.

the large, custom-made dining table or cluster in the back patio's multiple entertaining spaces. All of this is due to the hard work and skill of Janice, Bill and their fathers, whose work can be found throughout the home, often in Janice's favorite black-and-white palette.

Inspired by her mother, Janice expresses her own talent and creativity everywhere in her home, from the herbs she grows in her garden to the flower arrangements she creates on her flower porch (built by Bill) and places throughout the home, from the fresh pastries she bakes in her kitchen to the chairs she has custom-upholstered with a fun mix of fabrics. And Bill has created tables and bar tops indoors and out, wherever meals are enjoyed.

"We love working around the house," Janice says. "Creating something together and working on a project together is something we just love to do. That satisfaction of doing it ourselves rather than going out and buying it in a shop or having somebody else come in and build it for us, it's just our way of spending time together."



THIS HUTCH WAS BUILT BY JANICE'S FATHER and given to her as a wedding gift more than 30 years ago. It houses the pewter pieces she's been collecting for nearly four decades and uses throughout her home for serving food and displaying flower arrangements.



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1. THE MORROWS BUILT THE CANDY COUNTER in the great room, the hangout spot for family and friends. Not only is this her kids' favorite spot in the house, but her young grandson now likes to sit on the tall stools at the counter whenever he visits.

2. A TRAINED CHEF WHO TEACHES COOKING CLASSES, Janice needed a large kitchen. The maple cabinets were painted white, and Janice customized a set of chandeliers using her mother's beads four years ago, but everything else is original to the Morrows' remodel from more than 20 years ago.



“I just love having a fresh arrangement in every room of the house.”

DESIGN GUIDE: How to Mix & Match Fabrics

GIVE YOUR FURNISHINGS UNIQUE CHARM WITH A BLEND OF PATTERNED FABRICS.

Vintage and thrifted furniture pieces can be found throughout Janice Morrow's home, many given a fresh look with custom upholstery featuring a variety of patterns and prints. "I love using fabrics that don't necessarily go together, but then when I pull them all together they suddenly match," she says.

FOLLOW THESE TIPS TO BLEND PATTERNED FABRICS IN YOUR OWN HOME.

CONSULT THE COLOR WHEEL. Bring together colors with a similar intensity, like soft pastels or deep jewel tones, for balance.

CONSIDER THE SCALE. Select a mix of large and small patterns to prevent the finished product from being overwhelming.

TRUST YOUR EYE. The true test for how well your patterns will work together is to see them together.



THE MASTER BEDROOM recently underwent a light and airy makeover, inspired by a Paris hotel where the Morrrows celebrated their 20th anniversary. To capture the look, Janice painted the walls a soft pink and the fireplace a bright white.



THE MORROWS' OUTDOOR SPACES were designed with entertaining in mind. The back porch features multiple gathering spots, including a bar and conversation nook, all decorated in Janice's black-and-white palette and accented with pops of green and pink for the spring.

A NATURAL Talent

DISCOVER THE SECRETS TO LONG-LASTING FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR HOME.

AN AVID GARDENER AND TALENTED FLORAL ARRANGER, Janice Morrow fills her home with fresh-made bouquets. She takes weekly trips to the flower market in Los Angeles or will step out into her own garden to gather blooms for the stunning arrangements that are found in every room of her home, even her sons' bathroom.

WHEN CREATING HER ARRANGEMENTS, Janice avoids using floral foam. "I like to be able to pick up the flowers from the vessel and snip the bottoms of the stems every two or three days and change the water as well," she says. "That keeps the arrangements lasting so much longer than if I were to create the arrangement using an Oasis block."

JANICE HAS ANOTHER SECRET WEAPON for making her flower arrangements last: her pewter collection. She regularly uses pitchers, bowls and other pieces from the collection to hold her arrangements, setting the water and flowers right into the pewter, which she believes contributes to the flowers' staying power. "Flowers honestly do last longer in pewter. I don't know exactly why, but there must be some chemical interaction with the water and the pewter," she says.



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