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ARCHITECTURE MOULTON LAYNE, VERO BEACH, FL  
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A spacious guest house and a new pool are two of the new additions that resulted from the renovation of this home in John's Island, Vero Beach.

# New Beginnings

VIBRANT COLOR AND STRIKING PATTERNS GUIDE THE RENOVATION OF  
A VERO BEACH RESIDENCE ON JOHN'S ISLAND





ABOVE: Many of the pieces in the main house's living room are part of the homeowners' previous collection, including the beige sofa and the painting above the fireplace by Fort Lauderdale artist Madeline Denaro. Interior designer Lisa Erdmann supplemented the space with an Ondine chandelier from Ironware International, and tables from Palecek and Artesia.

*WHEN A MARRIED COUPLE* purchased a 4,500-square-foot, three-bedroom home on John's Island in Vero Beach seven years ago, they knew it would require a new roof, new floors, and a better kitchen. Once the pandemic took hold, they began considering other adjustments, like a home office for the husband. And after a visit with an architect, the project ballooned into a head-to-toe renovation that would add a new primary bedroom and a guest house, and grow their living space by 1,700 square feet.

Trusting a friend's referral, the homeowners reached out to Lisa Erdmann in Palm Beach to handle the interiors. "They wanted this to feel very much like Florida," she recalls. "It's a home for friends and family. That's how they want to live in the house: very casually." As the expansion called for new

BELOW: Erdmann's design involvement ensured the home's freshly updated interiors now pair masterfully with its exterior, which features a "Palm Beach pastel" façade, lush tropical foliage, and Bermuda-style architectural details.







ABOVE: After falling in love with a similar treatment she noticed in a jewelry store, the wife insisted on the Delft Blue shade from Fine Paints of Europe for the home's bar. "It's fabulous," she says. "Really, truly fun."

furnishings, the challenge was to create a look that also incorporated pieces the couple had grown fond of while taking the style in a fresh direction. "Lisa was willing to work with us," says the wife, a retired schoolteacher. "The second I met her, I felt like I was working with a friend."

The homeowners had already chosen white cabinetry designed by Dawn Wallace Designs and fabricated by Wood Mode, along with Estuary Oak engineered flooring. "It was kind of a blank canvas and we really just added a lot of fun color and pattern," Erdmann explains.

It all begins in the living room, where the upholstered seating features three different patterns, ranging from stripes the designer added to the client's existing armchairs to large-scale modern florals on new club chairs. Erdmann introduced yet another print for the drapes. The walls in that room were



Edo wallpaper from China Seas was used to visually separate the predominantly white kitchen from the family room. Photographer Betsy Carothers, a friend of the homeowners, snapped the captivating image of a white egret near the windows.





LEFT: The main house's office fearlessly embraces color and pattern with Parade wallpaper from Thibaut and bold lime paint on all millwork.



RIGHT: China Seas wallpaper in the guest house's mini kitchen was used to embolden what would have otherwise been a monochromatic room.

painted Cloud White by Benjamin Moore, but a nearby hallway extending to the primary bedroom goes in an entirely different direction thanks to a dose of high-gloss traditional oil-based enamel in a deeply saturated blue. Aside from those two spaces, every other room is covered in wallpaper.

"I've never had so much wallpaper in my life," the homeowner admits. "I was initially scared of using it in the kitchen, but now, I absolutely love it."

Considering the wife's office is predominantly papered in raspberry, lime and lemon shades, and the guest house features a heavy hand of royal blue, it is natural to wonder if her husband was equally enthused with the color selections. "He was involved in everything and also wanted to give his stamp of approval," says Erdmann. "It was a true joint effort."

Looking back, the designer is proud she was able to repurpose many of the couples' existing pieces and bring forth a truly vibrant palette. "They were game for bold patterns and color," says Erdmann. "What else can a designer ask for?"





ABOVE AND LEFT: Teak furnishings from Gloster and Serena and Lily lend the desired tropical vibe in the pool deck.

#### SOURCES

##### LIVING AREA

Sofa – Owners' collection  
Teal club chairs – Lisa Erdmann Interiors, Private Workroom, West Palm Beach, FL  
Fabric – Thibaut Fabrics, Jeffrey Michaels Showroom, SFDP, Hollywood, FL  
White/blue club chairs – Ferrell Mittman, High Point, NC  
Fabric – Kravet/Clarke & Clarke, Kravet Showroom, SFDP, Hollywood, FL  
Armchairs – Owners' collection  
Cocktail table – Artesia, Miami, FL  
Side table – Palecek, Richmond, CA  
Artwork above fireplace – Artist Madeline Denaro, Owners' collection  
Lamps – Excentricities, Jupiter, FL  
Chandelier – Ironware International, Jerry Pair Showroom, SFDP, Hollywood, FL  
Drapery fabric – Thibaut Fabrics, Jeffrey Michaels Showroom, SFDP, Hollywood, FL  
Area rug – Patterson Flynn Martin, Schumacher Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

##### BAR AREA

Cabinetry designed by Dawn Wallace Designs, Vero Beach, FL, and fabricated by Wood-Mode, [wood-mode.com](http://wood-mode.com)

##### KITCHEN

Cabinetry and island designed by Dawn Wallace Designs, Vero Beach, FL, and fabricated by Wood-Mode, [wood-mode.com](http://wood-mode.com)  
Stool upholstery – Thibaut Fabric, Jeffrey Michaels Showroom, SFDP, Hollywood, FL  
Pendant lighting – Visual Comfort & Co., High Point, NC  
Wall covering – China Seas Wallpaper, Quadrille Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

##### FAMILY AREA

Club chairs – Lee Furniture, High Point, NC  
Fabric – Thibaut Fabrics, Jeffrey Michaels Showroom, SFDP, Hollywood, FL  
Armchairs – Thibaut Furniture and Fabric, Jeffrey Michaels Showroom, SFDP, Hollywood, FL  
Cocktail table – Creative Metal & Wood, Thomasville, NC

Area rug – Patterson Flynn Martin, Schumacher Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

##### WIFE'S OFFICE

Cabinetry designed by Dawn Wallace Designs, Vero Beach, FL, and fabricated by Wood-Mode, [wood-mode.com](http://wood-mode.com)

Chair fabric and wall covering – Thibaut Fabrics, Jeffrey Michaels Showroom, SFDP, Hollywood, FL

##### GUEST HOUSE/PANTRY

Blue/white wall covering – China Seas, Quadrille Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

##### PATIO AND POOL DECK

Dining table, chairs, and lounges – Gloster Furniture, Gloster Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Umbrellas – Island Living & Patio, West Palm Beach, FL  
Wicker lanterns – Serena and Lily, Palm Beach, FL  
Pool fabricated by JC Welton Construction, Vero Beach, FL