

# Creating CALM

A FAMILY OF FIVE  
BUILDS A SERENE,  
COMFORTABLE ESCAPE  
IN DELRAY BEACH

BY STACIA FRIEDMAN

A saltwater fish tank  
is enhanced by a  
wall covered in  
white marble brick.

W

hen homeowners come to Brown's Interior Design in Boca Raton, they often arrive with images ripped out of magazines or with a specific style or color palette in mind. But, when the owners of a 7,000-square-foot Delray Beach home, then still under construction, first met with Brown's designer Lindsey Brodie, their top priority was to create a certain aura in the six-bedroom, eight-bathroom Seven Bridges home.

"Their design goal was to create a sense of calm and stability," says Brodie of the active family of five, including two teenagers. "They first contacted me in January 2016 for help with interior finishes."

Brodie steered the homeowners toward elegant but easy-to-maintain elements, such as polished porcelain floors for the first floor and large-planked, engineered hardwood in taupe gray for the second floor.

How do you design "calm" for such an expansive house with teenagers? Brodie employed a neutral



palette of white, cream and taupe, balanced by dark walnut millwork throughout. Perhaps the most notable millwork feature is in the 32-foot-high foyer. To complement the height, Brodie installed custom-built walnut panels in a dark espresso stain from floor to ceiling, backed by LED lights for dramatic effect. Kdavid WoodWork designed the panels, as well as all the cabinetry in the home. A white lacquered shelf seems to suspend in mid-air from the panels, which also feature a Porcelanosa mirror and a cut-crystal Boyd wall sconce. A contemporary spiral chandelier by Universal Lighting adds a touch of elegance and sparkle above the expansive built-in unit.

For a wow factor, Brodie designed two custom aquariums, one of which she installed in the foyer hallway.

"I wanted to create something unique and fun, so I placed a 300-gallon jellyfish tank in the foyer," she says. "The tank appears to be totally empty, but, once you turn on the custom LED backlight, a series of rotating colors enhances and spotlights the jellyfish as they swim."

Upon entering the living room, three focal points come into view: a wall-mounted electric fireplace, another built-in aquarium and a dramatic floor-to-ceiling arched window running the entire width of the room.

"I covered two of the walls with a white marble brick for added texture," Brodie says. "Opposite the fireplace, a 700-gallon tank is brimming with exotic saltwater fish, which can be seen from the adjoining office. The retro-style white chenille sofa and white leather chairs with matching cushions are by Bolier."



Custom-built walnut wall panels by Kdavid WoodWork and a spiral crystal chandelier by Universal Lighting balance the foyer's 32-foot ceiling.

"The finishing touch in the living room was the sculpture on the coffee table. I chose a gold-leaf metal sculpture, called 'Eden Gate,' containing the figures of a man and a woman. No matter where you sit or stand in the room, you can see through the sculpture to the fireplace, fish tank or sweeping scenery outside."

— Lindsey Brodie, interior designer, Brown's Interior Design



A retro-style white chenille sofa and leather chairs by Bolier create a sophisticated gathering place in the living room with a stunning view framed by custom sheer gold-mesh curtains.

The acrylic, wood and copper-leaf coffee table that anchors the space is also by Bolier. Although the furnishings are quite stunning, everything in the room is stain-resistant and, most importantly, kid-friendly.

Brodie devised an attractive solution for the expansive living room window.

"The living room curtain is meant to remain open," she says. "We custom-made a sheer gold-mesh curtain with a linen base that contained a shimmering gold pattern. The finishing touch in the room was the sculpture on the coffee table. I wanted to find something very distinctive and chose a gold-leaf metal sculpture with a white marble base, called 'Eden Gate,' containing the figures of a man and a woman. No matter where you sit or stand in



Versace embroidered wall-paper lends dramatic flair to an elegant dining room with an eye-catching lacquered blue table and white suede chairs by Century Furniture.

the room, you can see through the sculpture to the fireplace, fish tank or sweeping scenery outside."

The only exception to the neutral color scheme is the dining room.

"The owner had fallen in love with a Century Furniture dining table she saw at the Design Center of the Americas in Dania Beach," Brodie says. "It has a lacquered blue finish that appears translucent as you view it from different angles."

The Century Furniture dining room chairs are covered in white suede Crypton fabric with patterned silk backs. To echo the table, the walls are enveloped in Versace embroidered wallpaper.

"It's a traditional pattern made modern by its ombre appearance," she says.

Silver-leaf, cut-crystal chandeliers by Fine Art



A built-in glass wine rack adds interest to a contemporary dinette area, featuring a table and chairs by Swaim.

Lamps set a formal tone for the stately room.

A dinette off the kitchen offers the surprise of a floor-to-ceiling, built-in glass wine rack created by Milex Contractors.

"The space had originally been drafted as a pantry, but we eliminated the wall and installed the transparent wine rack," Brodie says.

The glass dinette table and pearlized white leather chairs are from Swaim, and a silver ET2 fixture hangs over the table, adding a fun, modern touch.

It makes sense that the most popular room in any home — the family room — opens up to both the kitchen and the breakfast nook. The kitchen island is ideally situated to serve as a buffet table, coffee bar or impromptu gathering spot. The dom-



inant feature of the family room is an expansive walnut built-in featuring Kinon panels in a pearlized cream finish laser cut with a geometric pattern. A sumptuous Thayer Coggin sectional sofa, upholstered in a pale gray poly-suede, is large enough to accommodate the entire family plus guests.

The first-floor media room features an 85-inch television set in walnut panels with brass veneer stripes and custom storage panels on either side



by Kinon. A beige chenille sectional sofa by Century Furniture creates a welcoming seating arrangement, accented by a tan leather ottoman.

The serene theme carries into the master bedroom, where a cream quilted-leather headboard pairs with contemporary furnishings from Century Furniture.

“Gold metallic wallpaper gives the room the illusion of a faux finish,” Brodie says.



The open-plan family room creates a sense of comfort and warmth with a Thayer Coggin sectional sofa and a kitchen island that doubles as a buffet table or a wine bar. (Above) A feeling of serenity pervades the master bedroom, in tones of cream with dark wood accents and gold metallic wallpaper. The bedroom set is by Century Furniture.



It's always family night in the media room, which features an 85-inch television set in custom walnut panels with brass veneers and storage units by Kinon.

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—Lindsei Brodie

One of the most impressive rooms is the second-floor loft, created as a study area and hangout spot for the children.

“I’ve never met such polished teenagers,” Brodie says. “I gave them three options for the wallpaper, and they selected an old English map. The detailing is something you could gaze at for hours.”

The room contains a large beige sectional sofa by Century Furniture, two desks and a 75-inch television. The engineered hardwood floor is accented by a blue-patterned nylon area rug. When the kids want to put their feet up, there’s a large, rectangular leather ottoman.

Among luxury built-ins, custom-coffered ceilings, textural wallcoverings, sumptuous furnishings and eye-catching art, Brodie’s favorite element of the project is something intangible, she says. The young designer is most thrilled with the fact that she was able to create a serene, comfortable environment for the growing family to enjoy for years to come.

But don’t expect Brodie to replicate this elegant project.

“My No. 1 rule is to give every client something new,” she says. “I never repeat a design.”



(Above) Map print wallpaper sets the tone for the children’s hangout spot and study room, featuring two desks, a wide-screen television as well as a sectional sofa and a leather ottoman by Century Furniture.

(Left) The custom 700-gallon exotic saltwater fish tank can be seen from both the living room and the office.