

Décor

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BEAUTIFUL
ROOMS
EVER



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Rustic Sophisticate

Natural materials and refined details capture a modern Western spirit in this custom home at the base of Wyoming's Teton Mountain Range.

Knotty cherry floors and a cedar-lined ceiling imbue the dining room with an inviting warmth, while sliding doors connect to the outdoors and open the room to mountain views. A massive Douglas fir beam supports the varying rooflines and gives a sense of separation to the living and dining rooms.





It's difficult to escape the drama

of Mother Nature when designing a home in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. With 360-degree mountain views, plentiful wildlife, and snow on the ground a good part of the year, the large valley comes with a unique set of design challenges. Architect Chris Moulder considered everything from capturing views and a Western vernacular to seamlessly accommodating indoor/outdoor living when drawing up the plans for this custom home.

In keeping with local height restrictions, the 3,500-square-foot house is built low to the ground. To create interest, its peaked roofline echoes the nearby mountains. Natural building materials—such as cedar shingles and dry-stacked Montana moss rock—encase the exterior, blending the entire home into the rustic setting. Covered porches and courtyards connect the interiors with the outdoors. “The goal was to merge the house with the landscape rather than try to command it,” Moulder says.

The rambling house is separated into distinct sections, which are connected by window-lined hallways. The separation of public and private spaces fulfills the homeowners’ wishes for a comfortable place for themselves and a welcoming place for their guests, but it’s also a design nod to the pioneers, who had a collection of buildings on their land. “The result is a wonderful experience of traveling through the house and discovering spaces,” Moulder says. “You don’t necessarily see the whole house from the front door.”

Expansive windows frame spectacular mountain views and draw in the daylight. To temper the brilliance of reflected snow, Moulder incorporated wood ceilings and floors, hefty timbers and beams, and a commanding stone fireplace into the interiors.

Interior designers Susan Shepard and John Thorkildsen injected more warmth with earthy colors and textural fabrics and rugs. They layered faux finishes and glazes on the walls for depth and chose rich stains for the wood elements. “The homeowners wanted the

house to be a stage for their fine Western art collections of bronzes and oil paintings, but not overly formal,” Thorkildsen says.

The furnishings are a distinctive mix of classical and contemporary, such as the Greek-inspired klismos dining room chairs and the living room’s clean-lined sofa. Chandeliers made of wrought iron and art glass, furniture upholstered in leather and chenille, and distressed wood finishes complement the Western profile without being trite or overdone. “We used a blend of furniture styles to achieve a comfortable, elegant environment with strong Western influences,” Shepard says.

Like others who have settled in the valley, the homeowners were attracted to Jackson Hole by the Western lifestyle. “This is their full-time residence, a property to hold on to,” Moulder says. “Their goal was to create a heritage for their family, a house of heirloom quality.”





“The house is a study of the pioneer/rancher



Opposite: The kitchen is situated under the grand barrel-vault ceiling at the end of the living room in the open floor plan. Two cooks can work comfortably in the space, which is finished with custom knotty alder cabinets, granite countertops, and wrought-iron accents. **Left:** Neutral colors and earthy elements, such as the granite countertops and tub surround, tie the spacious master bath to the rest of the house.

Below: Rich paisley bedcoverings and warm colors and textures make the guest room a welcoming place. Like all the bedrooms, this one connects to an outdoor courtyard.



vernacular of the valley, brought into a modern-day context.”

—ARCHITECT CHRIS MOULDER