

CHARLOTTE URBAN

HOME

APRIL/MAY 2013

CELEBRATING INSPIRATIONAL DESIGN AND PERSONAL STYLE





BETH KEIM

A bright and airy space with a touch of whimsy, and the dreamy atmosphere of a sandy, water splashed beach.

Let in the Light

When homeowners come to me to design their main living space, the biggest request by far is “give it a brighter feeling.” Following that request, inevitably, is more storage, more seating and an overall “pulled together” look. It’s my goal, and desire, to give my clients a complete room, with all the details that create a finished look. Recently, I worked with the Boulware’s in their Elizabeth home in an effort to do just that.

With the plan for a larger deck and a new design for the back yard in the works, the first step seemed obvious: add a set of French doors to let light in and create a flowing passage between the indoor living space and outdoor entertaining. Liz is a beach girl — she loves the look and feel of sand and surf, so blues and creams were an obvious choice for this new light and airy space. I found inspiration in the amazing large-scale fabric. The colors and scale added the drama I love in room designs, while the soothing, beach-y colors gave the room a calming effect we all wanted. With that decision made, adding new pieces and paint colors easily fell into place.

We repurposed a few of her existing pieces as well, including club chairs for the new room. I chose a rug with a traditional pattern, but mixed it with more modern lines in a new sectional sofa and TV console with milk-color glass doors. A traditional style tufted ottoman (in a puppy and kid friendly fabric) and a repurposed rattan ottoman for a cozy reading corner rounded out the furnishings. For added “seaside” feel, a touch of rope and a little shell did the job without screaming BEACH. A few vintage finds from local gem, Slate Interiors, gave the space interest and personality.

The result is idyllic — a bright and airy space with a touch of whimsy, and the dreamy atmosphere of a sandy, water splashed beach - just what this coastal girl requested. ❖

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