



Wainscoting featured in the home's formal living room continues in the beautifully composed dining room. Over-scaled pendant lamps and contemporary fine art, including a large piece by Justin Taylor, add a playful contrast to the more traditional dining table, chairs and area rug.

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**breathing new life** into a tired space is no small feat, so when interior designer Jenny Samuelson and her husband, Kevin, purchased their neglected Park City home back in 2010, they knew they had their work cut out for them. The house hadn't been updated since it was built in the mid-1980s and, over the last several years, had suffered renters, unruly parties and disrepair. A choppy layout provided additional challenges, but with the help of architect Scott Jaffa, Jenny gave the house a much-needed reboot. The result is an eclectic, inimitable expression of modern family living.

"The bones were definitely good, but the room configuration and organization simply did not make sense," says Jaffa of Jaffa Group



# Making It Personal

*Designer **JENNY SAMUELSON** pairs with architect Scott Jaffa to give her family's remodeled Park City home a lovely, livable style.*

BY MELISSA FIELDS    PHOTOS BY SCOT ZIMMERMAN



**Top:** White wall panels serve a stunning contrast to the stairways, Arts and Crafts-style railing and dark-stained reclaimed pecan flooring. **Right:** A stump side table adds rustic charm when paired with a plush reading chair in the family room.



Architects. “I took a previously awkward layout and made each floor work for how the Samuelsons live.”

On the main floor, cathedral ceilings now crown the light-filled kitchen and family great room, which was further expanded by large French doors leading to the tree-shaded backyard deck and patio. A guest room, oddly positioned off the great room, performs as a kids’ large playroom. Sliding doors open the play space to the great room or close to hide kids’ clutter. The dropped ceilings of the living room and formal dining room create a cozy, sophisticated vibe that counterbalances the kid-centric great room’s more casual style. “We entertain a lot, and I like having different spaces people can break off into,” Samuelson says.

Upstairs Jaffa converted a series of small bedrooms, an attic space and unusable open loft space into four airy bedroom suites, a laundry room and soundproof home office. In addition, the master suite includes a second office tucked ingeniously within the walk-in closet. “Scott was brilliant in redesigning the second floor configuration. The cherry on top is that we ended up with a huge master closet/office space,” Samuelson says. Similarly reconfigured, the once dark and maze-like lower level is now a fresh and open retreat for frequent guests and features a second kitchen, kids’ bunk room and bath as well as another guest bedroom with an en suite bathroom.

Throughout the home, Samuelson’s ability to artfully merge varied styles flourishes.



She attributes California roots to her penchant for clean and modern interiors. “But with this house’s more traditional architecture and Park City location, I knew a strictly modern design would not work,” she says. Her solution: a subtle combination of multiple style elements.

Dark-stained reclaimed flooring and cool, neutrally colored walls flow throughout the main and second floors, creating continuity. The kitchen appears categorically traditional but with a slightly coastal feel shaped by a glass subway tile back-

splash and slate blue kitchen island cabinetry. Cast concrete fireplace mantels and surrounds—in both the great room and living room—pay homage to the home’s French-inspired exterior. Machine-washable slipcovers dress the great room’s chic and family-friendly furniture, while durable jute rugs complement thoughtfully displayed accessories. A large cowboy serigraph and sliding barn-inspired playroom doors nod to the home’s mountain locale. “Overall, we departed from the typical mountain aesthetic in

**Above:** Reclaimed wood floors, sliding barn-inspired playroom doors and select accessories provide rustic elements to the great room. The custom cast fireplace lends a European touch and furnishings are casually modern. A cowboy serigraph overlooks it all, tying the elements together in a completely original way.



**Top:** Pull out spice cabinets frame a large Wolf range. Shelved pottery softens the appliance's stainless steel facade.  
**Above:** Shimmering glass tile runs in a bond pattern above the white farmhouse sink.  
**Right:** Chalkboard paint transforms a kitchen endwall into a fun slate for family messages and notes. **Far Right:** Samuelson fashioned the airy kitchen using painted rather than stained cabinetry, marble countertops, a watery glass backsplash, industrial pendant lamps and the blue focal point island.







## SHOP TALK

Accessories are an important element of interior designer Jenny Samuelson's home. Almost every piece has meaning. "It's all those things you collect over your lifetime that tell your story and define your personal style," she says. Her favorite local places to find unusual pieces include:

**Robert Kelly Home**  
449 Main St., Park City,  
435-615-7125  
robertkellyhome.com

**Root'd**  
577 Main St., Park City,  
435-214-7791, rootd-parkcity.com

**Paisley Pomegranate**  
1675 W. Redstone Dr.,  
Park City, 435-575-0300 and  
4677 S. Holladay Blvd.,  
Holladay, 801-948-4347  
paisleypomegranate.com

**Terzian Galleries**  
309 Main St., Park City,  
435-649-4927  
terziangalleries.com

**Gallery MAR**  
436 Main St., Park City,  
435-649-3001, gallerymar.com

**Meyer Gallery**  
305 Main St., Park City,  
435-649-8160, meyergallery.com

**Alice Lane Home Collection**  
1350 S. State St., Orem,  
801-802-6266  
alichelanehome.com



substantive ways, choosing paint-grade wood over stained wood, marble over granite, a watery palette based in grays and blues rather than rusts and browns and light linen upholsteries rather than heavier fabrics,” Samuelson says.

An Arts and Crafts-style railing flanks the staircase leading to the second floor, where Samuelson indulged her love for California contemporary in her home office and the guest room. The children’s rooms are similarly unfussy, and the master bedroom, furnished with tufted upholstered details, boasts a chic ambiance.

Black cabinetry and pristine white flooring lend a five-star hotel feel to the adjoining bathroom.

Kid-friendly, casual, breezy, traditional, rustic and modern are all apt descriptors of the Samuelson’s eclectic home. While this might sound like nonsensical jumble, every room makes sense stylistically and functionally, both on its own and in relation to the rest of the home—a true credit to Samuelson’s and Jaffa’s talents. Most importantly, as both of these pros will tell you, this remodeled home is now a unique expression of the style and lives of the people who inhabit it. **USD**



*Living Room and Dining Room*  
**OVERCAST**  
Benjamin Moore



*Stairway Newel Posts*  
**GRAPHITE**  
Benjamin Moore



*Family Room and Kitchen*  
**SILVER CHAIN**  
Benjamin Moore



**Far Left:** Artist Faryn Davis used rose petals from the couple’s wedding bouquet as part of the bird’s nest embedded in the art above the living room fireplace. **Left:** Wegner wishbone chairs and wood grain furnishings enrich the guest room. **Above:** A bold black and white color palette defines the master bathroom’s timeless design.