

5280
Home

Top
DENVER
DESIGN
(2018)

We gushed over countless photos, scoured our design feeds, resisted the urge to remodel our own homes, and made the tough calls to bring you this mix of 14 showstoppers: rooms that reveal what's now and next in Denver design. From an eclectic master suite in a midcentury Littleton ranch to a sleek courtyard-and-pool combo in a modern Highlands home, these spaces are full of clever tricks and fresh ideas. Read on to find inspiration for your next redesign—and to discover what the pros think of the city's big design moment.

story by

CAROLINE EBERLY LONG

illustrations by

CHANTAL BENNETT



Living Room

[CONTEMPORARY]

MODERN FAMILY

The owners of this luxury condo in the Pinnacle at City Park South are a European couple who travel frequently and wanted a main residence that balances ultramodern style with a kid-friendly feel for their young children. While white may seem a daring choice, the modular sofa and chairs—with touchless rounded edges—are leather, which makes wiping up spills (relatively) easy. The bright foam Mini Togo chairs add the perfect splash of fun to the kid-approved living space.

DESIGN CHALLENGE

One of the defining elements of this condo is the view: a near-perfect panorama of Denver's skyline and the mountains beyond. "Our inspiration was to make a beautiful room without disturbing the view," says designer Kristina Sterling, owner of Seek Interior Design. "That's why everything is sort of low." Using white furnishings was also a way to make sure the room didn't distract from the view, but Sterling needed something to liven up the starkness. The abstract rug pulls in just enough color to warm up the space and sets the palette for the pillows and kids' chairs, and the meshlike curtains soften the room's geometry while preserving transparency and the spectacular vista.

PRO Interior designer: Kristina Sterling, Seek Interior Design

Wine Storage

BREAK FROM TRADITION

The owners of this Hilltop home—both wine aficionados—knew they wanted a distinctive wine-storage feature in their new home. The typical choice for a collection would have been a wine cellar, but the homeowners weren't into a dark space that required a trip downstairs every time a good pairing was in order. So architect Scott Parker of Nest Architectural Design dreamed up this fresh, updated take—a modern version of a butler's pantry—between the dining room and kitchen. "It's got proximity to everything, and it turned into an architectural feature everyone sees when they walk in the front door," says interior designer Beth Armijo of Armijo Design Group.

PROBLEM SOLVED

The main benefit of a traditional cellar is that it maintains a consistently cool temperature, so the design team engineered a creative solution: The cooling system runs up from the floor, through the bases of the cabinets, and into the wall. Cheers!



PROS Interior designer: Beth Armijo, Armijo Design Group
Architect: Scott Parker, Nest Architectural Design
Builder: David Ipson, Boa Construction Inc.

< DINING ROOM >

This light, fresh space, which puts an effortless spin on “modern classic,” is practically the opposite of its (intense) pre-makeover scheme: “There were black accents, a yellow-and-red toile fabric on the walls, and heavy matching toile draperies,” says interior designer Beth Armijo, principal of **Armijo Design Group**.

The designer worked with a young family to bring the historical dining room, in one of Cherry Hills’ oldest homes, into the present by “pairing old and new, and formal with a bit of fun,” she says. To make the mix feel cohesive, Armijo used shimmery, organic touches as a connecting thread. A metallic Jim Thompson leaf-print wallpaper (called

Nirvana) complements a bold Helios Credenza by John-Richard and a branch-inspired Ondine chandelier by Ironware International. Add to that a serene nest painting by Denver artist Elaine St. Louis and a table by local furniture-maker Ryan Schlaefer, and you get an only-in-Colorado feel.



PROS: Interior design by Beth Armijo, Armijo Design Group, armijodesigngroup.com. Architecture by Harry James Manning. Construction by Dan Fuller, Haley Custom Homes, haleycustomhomes.com.