

MODERN LUXURY

BOSTON COMMON

BEST OF THE CITY

A Curated Guide to Boston's Good Life

RADIO MAN

Billy Costa on the Biggest Honor of His Career

CHAMPION STYLE

Fashion's Athletic Mood

Plus

New Ultraluxe
Staycations &
the Hottest
Wellness Trends

SHINING MOMENT

Diane Kruger's Role of a Lifetime





STAYING NEUTRAL

A Vermont ski home forgoes the chalet look for a sophisticated color and texture palette.

By Marni Elyse Katz // Photography by Jim Westphalen

When longtime clients of Jean Verbridge, principal at Siemasko + Verbridge (svdesign.com), decided to upgrade to a ski-in, ski-out condo on Sugarbush mountain in Warren, Vt., they surprised her with an out-of-character request: that she decorate using a neutral palette. "We used texture instead of color to make it interesting," says Verbridge.

Instilling a sense of solidity to the three-story, four-bedroom new construction was key, as was adding character. Siemasko + Verbridge drew inspiration from the surroundings, coaxing Vermont into every room, along with a bit of humor. Wintry peaks informed the color scheme, while

other aspects of the rural landscape—barn wood, iron and stone—are reflected in the materials. Wallpaper and upholstery reinforce these outdoor themes with wit and charm.

The fireplace, customized with local stone, is the focal point of the main living space. Reclaimed wood ceiling beams with iron brackets add a sense of permanence and earthiness. Cozy shearling ottomans and armchairs embellished with velvety deer silhouettes (a subtle substitution for taxidermy) surround a pair of rugged, bluestone-topped coffee tables.

In the dining area, Siemasko + Verbridge



From top: The Old Hickory chair backs in the dining room are upholstered in Casamance Rondoy embroidered snowflake fabric; the reclaimed beam mantelpiece supported by wrought iron brackets echo the ceiling beams that the designer added to the space.

chose an equally low-key but lighthearted snowflake pattern for the tall-backed chairs. An antler chandelier by Waitsfield-based Mad River Antler hangs over a live-edge table made by another local studio, Dorset Custom Furniture. A similar fixture by the same workshop makes a statement in the master bedroom upstairs, hovering above a four-poster birch tree bed made by Stauffer Woodworking in East Montpelier.

The lower level is the domain of the younger generation. Cowtan & Tout Birches wallpaper brings the outside in, as does the actual birch tree that's been retrofitted around a post. A three-sided sectional upholstered in cotton twill the color of soil and bark can take a beating. Siemasko + Verbridge designed rough-hewn timber beds for the adjacent bunkroom. Pierre Frey Salzburg wallpaper depicts the snow-covered Alps, a sophisticated pattern that keeps the room from feeling childish.

Conversely, Verbridge used Dupenny wallpaper with a cheeky, vintage ski motif, complete with sportsmen in red Fair Isle sweaters, on the wall in the main stairwell. "It's a surprise that makes you smile when you look up," she says. Indeed, every aspect of this alpine getaway makes the entire family, as well as their guests, want to curl up and relish the Vermont winter. ■



Clockwise from top left: Andrew Martin Timber wallpaper in the powder room closely resembles wood paneling. An alabaster stone sink sits on the copper-topped wood vanity; touches of timber continue in the master bedroom while a cowhide rug and faux fur blanket add softness; mirrors resembling windows bounce light around the playroom.