







Window seats flanking the fireplace provide extra seating and make snug spots to curl up with a book. Rosenfeld says she found most of the room's fabrics, including all the lively pillow covers, at small independent fabric houses and artisanal shops. FACING PAGE: A linear brass chandelier casts a warm glow

t could be the salty air or the clear water. Maybe it's the romance of misty mornings or the seabirds. Whatever it is, once smitten with the bliss of a Maine summer, visitors come back year after year. Take this family, for instance.

did their three children.

The teeny cottage they purchased

years ago was the backdrop for many happy memories, but time was taking its toll. Too tight for an active family and too old to repair, down it came. With the help of architect Robert Freedman, up rose a more livable three-story





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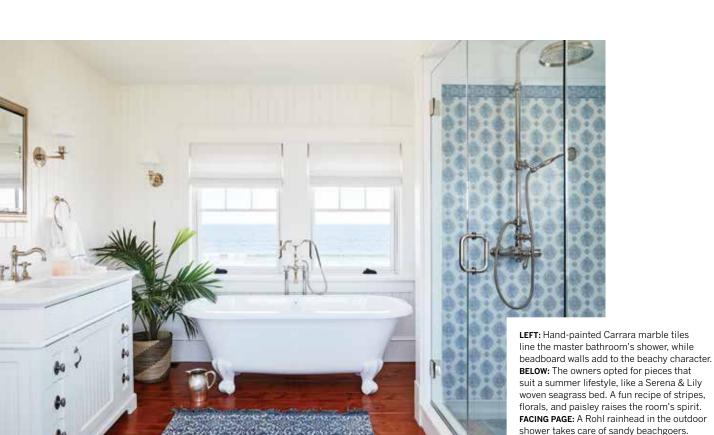
INTERIOR DESIGN: Katie Rosenfeld and Company

ARCHITECTURE: Kennebunk River

Architects

BUILDER:

Norm Laliberte, Spang Builders



An inventory of the welcoming living area proves her right: the hearth's handmade delft tiles are classic, the oversize ottoman is upholstered in a stunning antique rug, and there's not a matchy-matchy fabric in sight. Even the window seats flaunt their own fetching, far-from-ho-hum blend of patterns. Meals transpire around the farmhouse trestle table in the dining area, and what better spot? Throw open the doors to the deck and there's the sparkling ocean.

With the aid of Jannell Zarba, of Damiana Design and Project Management, the kitchen came together as smoothly as the rest of the house. An abundance of cabinets—painted a soothing Benjamin Moore color called Silver Lake—provides ample storage and keeps the space tidy. In the nearby laundry room, cabinets painted a zingy yellow elevate the washing from mundane to almost fun. The same happy golden hue pops up again on a bureau in a guest bedroom, where visitors nod off under a checkerboard blanket and a custom duvet.

The homeowners do their nighttime stargazing from their private third-floor aerie that, no surprise, sports its own charming play of colors and patterns. The room's mood is as relaxing as a day at the

beach, which, come to think of it, is the ideal round-the-clock ambience for every vacation home.

EDITOR'S NOTE: For details about this home, see

