

# FRENCH *flair*

Designer Kendra Nash brought sophisticated European glamour to this newly built house, giving it a sense of history and real beauty

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## LIVING AREA

**Introducing elegant mouldings was key to making this new build feel like a period home.**

Pendant, \$4,095, Restoration Hardware. Cabinets, \$3,478.90, Moe's Home. Steel doors by Jada, with Briggs hardware by Rocky Mountain Hardware. Find similar Milo Baughman chairs at 1stDibs





## LIVING SPACE

**This area and the kitchen are combined to make it a sociable space and both open to the garden (right).** Signature sofa in Olive Green velvet, from £6,402, George Smith, would suit this scheme. The ram's head coffee table is a vintage piece; try 1stDibs for similar





## HOME TRUTHS

### THE PROPERTY

European-style new build

**ROOMS** Kitchen/living area, dining room, TV lounge, mud room, five bedrooms, three bathrooms

**LOCATION** California

**HOW DID YOU COME TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT?** When the clients approached me with their idea of creating a 'Parisian apartment in the suburbs', I instantly wanted to be on board. They were looking for an elevated yet effortless design for their new build home and I envisaged a mix of intricate panelling, classic materials, modern lighting and vintage decor. We worked as a team with designers Lisa Vuong and Megan Moran, architect Jim Maliksi and contractor Mike Valentine from the start.

**DESCRIBE THE HOMEOWNERS' STYLE.** Their look is classic yet contemporary, with glam and vintage pieces they have collected over the years. We added a mix of industrial glam and traditional architectural details that really blended well together to give that Paris apartment feel.

### WHAT WERE THE BIGGEST PRIORITIES FOR THE OWNERS?

The clients wanted a forever home – something they could grow into. That is why they chose to build all on one level, with an exterior style that blended well with the neighbouring properties, but at the back was something that gave the wow factor. The 12-foot-high steel doors that bring in amazing natural light are architecturally jaw-dropping.

**WHAT WERE THE KEY DETAILS FOR THE SCHEMES?** Having intricate European moulding and trim details set the tone for the style of the home. Classic materials like Carrara and Calacatta marble, deep grey veined quartz and custom-carved mantelpieces give an old-world feel, yet with modern touches.

**WHICH WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT ROOM?** The kitchen-living room is the hub of the home, the place where



everyone gathers. We made sure it was functional, and a showstopper, complete with a little pattern in the splashback. The industrial-style extractor hood with brass details and globe-shaped island lighting balance the open space and ground the kitchen side, while the other side of the space has a hint of glam.

**HOW DID YOU ARRIVE AT THE COLOUR PALETTE?** The owners wanted a neutral palette, but love high contrast. We used black and white tiles to create the contrast, and to bring warmth to the relatively cool-toned palette we used lots of brass and a warm hardwood tone.

**WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE?** The major obstacle was starting the project prior to the pandemic and trying to complete it during the craze of it all. However, we persevered and it came together beautifully with an amazing group of artisans who poured their hearts, souls and creative minds into the space. It's so satisfying knowing how happy our clients are living in the space and using every single inch.

### WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR CREATING A SUCCESSFUL SCHEME?

Think carefully about your short-term and long-term goals, and how you plan to use each space – that way, you can do all you can to prepare for every eventuality and there won't be anything you miss. 25

*[nashdesigngrp.com](http://nashdesigngrp.com); [maliksi.com](http://maliksi.com); [valentineconstructionhomes.com](http://valentineconstructionhomes.com)*



‘Hiding the fridge  
behind cabinetry  
in an open-plan  
living space always  
makes it look  
more streamlined  
and elegant’





## KITCHEN

**Three globe pendants were chosen to contrast with the straight lines of the windows and cabinetry.**

Cabinets, custom built by Roth Wood. Bar stools, \$1,789.40 each, Sunpan. Pendant lights, \$2,117.85, Visual Comfort & Co. Ventana tiles, made to order by Stone Impressions, are a similar option






## BEDROOM

**Varied and sumptuous materials also help to give rooms in a new build character.**

Bed with upholstered headboard, bespoke through Kendra Nash.  
Statement armchair, \$1,000, Four Hands. White ceiling light, \$565.95, Visual Comfort & Co.  
Rug, \$1,031.50, Jaipur Living







‘Curtains soften the more shiny  
and sleek elements in a  
bathroom – just make sure  
they are easy wash’

#### BATHROOM

The serene soft whites are  
broken up with beautiful foliage.

Charlotte Edwards Shard acrylic egg-shaped  
oval freestanding bath, £2,039, Indulgent  
Bathing, is similar. White marble side table,  
£139, Atkin and Thyme, is a good match



## BATHROOM

**Custom units ensure there's a place for everything.**

Cabinets, custom made by Roth Wood. Tribeca bathroom wall sconces, £1,040 each, Hudson Valley Lighting. Albany concrete-effect wood-framed mirror, £150, Ruma, would create the same look

