

FAMILY RETREAT **ON** THE GREEN

Quintessential Lowcountry elegance defines this Sea Pines stunner.



▲ Indonesian wood bench feature.



▲ A warm glow of external lighting accents the home at dusk.



▲ A shaded outdoor seating area overlooks the golf course.



▲ Clean white symmetrical lines highlight this fireplace.



▲ A white palette brightens the room

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DESIGN BY JEFF CLINE

The visual language of the Lowcountry is in a constant state of flux. When the first Sea Pines homes began materializing among the live oaks and palmettoes, their color palette reflected the bucolic splendor around them with rich browns and greens; their furnishings evoked the natural elements of colonial Caribbean; and their low-sloping rooflines borrowed heavily from Asian design.

And then came the rise of coastal chic, swapping browns and greens for crisp whites and soothing seafoam, incorporating modern farmhouse flair into furnishings, and leaning hard into the outdoor living that's only possible where the salt air blows.

This transformation was slow and steady, but now that we've arrived here, the question remains: Where do we go from here? The answer may just lie on these pages, in this masterfully reimagined Sea Pines home. While still very much a Lowcountry



▲ A shiplap portal for modern lumination.



▲ Two overhead lights make a statement over the stone island

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— LINDA CONKLIN



▲ Island-seating for four expands dining capacity



▲ Gray and white kitchens are still very en vogue



▲ An earthy touch of whimsy for contrast.

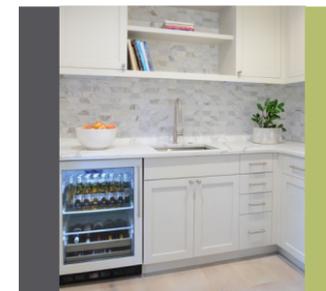


▲ Large windows allow for abundant natural light.

aesthetic, here you'll find a refreshing modernism that points to a cleaner, simpler future for island homes.

"My whole philosophy is, 'Clean and simple lasts longer.' Something really clean and not too over-the-top contemporary, not too edgy ... we find that balance that will endure the test of time," said Linda Conklin, owner of interior design firm Seasons. It was her clean and simple approach, and the brilliance of her team, that informed the modern Lowcountry look of the home, which had originally been envisioned as a remodel before the owners opted to tear down and start from scratch.

"We were involved from the very beginning," Conklin said. "We designed the cabinetry, the pool deck, lighting, all the colors and fans and all that... The client was wonderful; they embraced a lot of our ideas. It was a fun project."



▲ Drinks and snacks are never far away.

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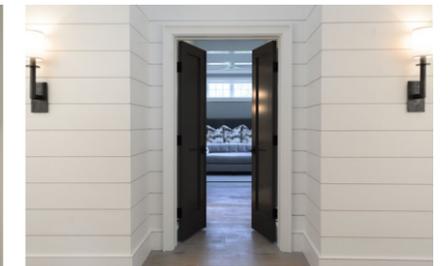
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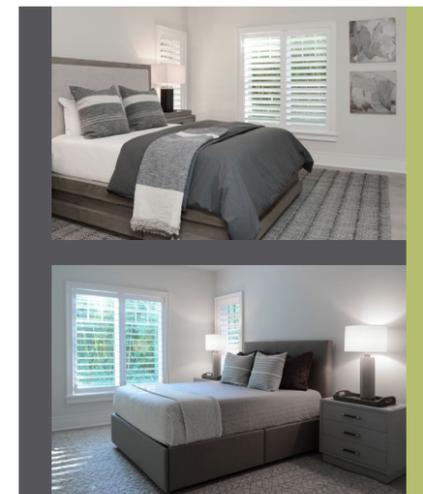
▲ Overhead beams add interest to this bedroom



▲ French doors lead to a guest room.



▲ His and Hers vanity in soft grey



▲ Calming guest suites in shades of charcoal.



▲ White and grey marbled stone

While Conklin and Seasons played an outside role in the home's overall aesthetic, a project this size obviously required a small army of experts, including Esposito construction and architect Terry Rosser. "The great thing about it was the teamwork of people involved," Conklin said. "Terry Rosser, Esposito and us—we have done a bunch of projects together. I really think it turned out so well because of the connection of all the people working together—the teamwork." Together, they created a home that points a way toward coastal chic's modern future.

Perhaps nowhere in the house is this dazzlingly modern take on Lowcountry more pronounced than in the kitchen, where the veining of the dramatic stone center island serves as a meandering contrast to the rigid straight lines of the cabinetry and the eye-catching shiplap range hood.

"The kitchen is wonderful. It's light, it's bright, and it's functional," Conklin said.

Light and bright could describe pretty much any room in the house, thanks to Conklin's minimalist approach. In nearly every room, clean lines seem to guide your eye toward the stunning Atlantic Dunes golf views just beyond the pool deck, with minimal clutter distracting from the sightlines. But when there is a distraction, it's the best kind of diversion. The vintage overdyed Turkish rug in the living room. The keen selection of local art. The rounded benches of Indonesian wood around the pool. Even larger aspects like the fireplace are designed to enchant but not distract.



▲ Clean modern lines are used throughout the home's bathrooms



▲ A white palette allows for better lighting in smaller areas with little natural light.



▲ Cubbies are tucked with towels in the guest bathroom

HARD MATERIALS WERE A KEY PART OF THE HOME'S MULTI-FACETED APPEAL. OBVIOUSLY THE KITCHEN'S CENTER ISLAND TAKES A STARRING ROLE, BUT FOR TRUE ARTISTIC INSPIRATION, YOU NEED TO SEE THE POWDER ROOM.

"We worked with concrete artisans on that fireplace. What I love about it is that it's all one piece," Conklin said.

Hard materials were a key part of the home's multi-faceted appeal. Obviously the kitchen's center island takes a starring role, but for true artistic inspiration, you need to see the powder room.

Present in wall color and on the stylish washbasin, a pop of blue beams against veined stone. The blue carries through the home, as does the stone of the half wall, in the most ingenious way. "Distinctive (Fabrications) did that half wall. They made the baseboard out of stone to match the baseboard throughout the house. It matches and has the same detail as the rest of the house," Conklin said.

The furniture neatly fits that mold of beauty that blends in, and here Conklin was able to inject some of her own designs into the process. Several pieces throughout the house came from her Henry Wilshire line, a collection Conklin and her partner Erin Wasem designed together and will soon show at the prestigious High Point Market.

Of course, it wouldn't be Lowcountry without a tip of the hat to our area's nautical heritage, represented by the selection of oars on the wall of the den. These beautifully weathered found pieces came courtesy of an enigmatic source we'll simply refer to as Conklin's secret weapon.



▲ Rustic oars and wooden sliding door revealing hidden snack bar, make this family space extra special.



▲ Zen meets home office.



▲ No laundry blues in this stylish indigo workspace.

"We have a resource," she said with an air of mystery. "He comes out to the store in his truck every once in a while and just pulls out a table and loads it with stuff. One day he pulled up and had a bunch of oars. We use a lot of things from the store, too. We have a lot of one-of-a-kinds within the store that we infuse into our homes."

Those intriguing items, peppered throughout, add a touchy of whimsy that tempers the more contemporary elements of the home. The result is a perfect balancing act that incorporates the best of Lowcountry design and moves it into a bolder future.

"We're definitely more contemporary than anyone else," Conklin said. "We do everything, but we prefer to do something a little cleaner." 🗨️



▲ A screened in porch with fireplace is perfection all year round.



▲ An outdoor area for enjoying a quiet evening at home.

"WE'RE DEFINITELY MORE CONTEMPORARY THAN ANYONE ELSE. WE DO EVERYTHING, BUT WE PREFER TO DO SOMETHING A LITTLE CLEANER AND NEATER." — LINDA CONKLIN



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