

Simple Abundance

Restraint trumps frills, rustic woods warm burnished metals, and the door is always open for family and friends in this revamped home.

BY JODY GARLOCK

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A salvaged-beam mantel stands out against unadorned white plaster walls. "The simplicity of the design helps make this home relaxed," architect Bruce Beinfeld says.



HEAVY-DUTY
Pendants salvaged from an airport are more than sturdy enough for the kitchen.

“I practically live at the kitchen island,” says homeowner Liz Beinfeld, *far left*, catching up with daughters Zoe and Jenny. The island’s double-sided storage compensates for open shelving. Liz loves the rustic look of the zinc countertop. “I’ve always been drawn to the patina of metal,” she says. Salvaged items are woven throughout her classic shingled house, *below*.

o say that Liz Beinfeld’s home is a magnet for friends is putting it mildly. The weekend she moved in—and less than 24 hours after the kitchen counters had been installed—150 people showed up for a party. Friends and family have streaming in ever since, albeit in much smaller groups. “People gravitate to this house,” Liz says. “It’s warm and friendly.” Liz, a real estate agent, bought the house for its one plus: a hillside location above a park in quaint Rowayton, Connecticut. She took the structure down to the foundation, then worked with her brother, architect Bruce Beinfeld, to create a house that looks old but lives. Plaster walls define the open yet cozy floor plan. Salvaged items, like a beam for a mantel, add a rustic feel. For Liz, the charm is the house’s simplicity. “*Less is more* is my motto,” she says. Perhaps with age. But with family and friends, more is just right.





Cleaned up and rewired, a copper light fixture Liz's daughter spotted at the back of a warehouse is the dining area's focal point. Upholstered chairs and grommeted curtains add the "now."

"I like to mix the old and the new. They complement one another and give rooms an element of interest."

Liz Beinfield





Barn-style sliding doors, left, allow a series of small rooms, including the powder room and pantry, to be closed off. "They're one of my favorite features," Liz says of the space-saving alternative to swing-out doors.



Industrial made livable

Can industrial style hobnob with warm and rustic? Definitely! Here's how Liz blended the two without making her place look like a factory.

ARM THE METAL Iron, steel, and matte-finish or well-patinaed metals are staples of industrial style. Liz makes sure there's enough wood, such as the reclaimed wood floors and barnwood-top dining table, to offset the coldness.

IP THE FRILLS Stripping down the architecture—no crown molding or sheetrock in Liz's home—is a more mainstream spin on exposed ductwork and brick walls. In Liz's kitchen, plates and bowls casually stack on open shelves. "It's more of the feel of a restaurant," she says.

PURPOSE SMARTLY Finding new uses for old things speaks to the ingenuity of industrialism. Bringing in just a few repurposed pieces—such as the cabinet Liz refitted into a vanity, right, and a moving dolly outfitted with shelves to serve as a bar, above right—ensures rooms don't look like a shop class. Bonus: The personality pieces stand out and seem more special. ■

ACES Architect—Bruce Beinfeld, FAIA, and Colin Grotheer, Beinfeld Architecture, PC, 1 Marshall St., South Norwalk, CT 06854; 203/838-5789; beinfeld.com. **General stores**—Art Ruffels and Ray Donohue; 203/253-4989. **Kitchen designer**—Joseph Najimy, NU Kitchens, 132 Water St., South Norwalk, CT 06854; 203/831-9000; nukitchens.com. **Room: sofa, coffee table**—restorationhardware.com. **Red pillow on sofa** Ikat in Masala Red, floral pillow on chair Spray in Cream and Blonde, orange-and-cream throw on similar available—Gracious Home; gracioushome.com. **Scones flanking fireplace**—Interieurs; interieurs.com. **Original metal cart** altered after purchase—Seymour Antiques; irantiques.com. **Fabrication of drinks cart**—Kevin Scanlon; 312/287-9828; kpscanlon@earthlink.net. **Rug similar** available—westelm.com. **Orange candles on mantel** available—illumine; illuminecandles.com. **Wicker tray on coffee table**—crateandbarrel.com. **Tray on drinks cart**—Garnet Hill; garnethill.com. **Upholstered chairs, mantel, rug on mantel**—homeowners' collection. **Kitchen: range, hood, and refrigerator** Viking—County TV and Appliances; countytv.com. **Zinc countertop at island**—Kevin Scanlon; 312/287-9828; kpscanlon@earthlink.net. **Pendant lights**—Liza Sherman Antiques; lizashermanantiques.com. **Sink, faucet**—Klauffs; klauffs.com. **Bar stools** Shaker Stool—Ian Ingersoll; rsoll.com. **Red casserole on range** Kobenstyle Casserole in Chili Red—Dansk; dansk.com. **Yellow bowl on island**—target.com. **Orange towel on island**—crateandbarrel.com. **Room: table, chairs**—restorationhardware.com. **Pendant light fixture**—Capitol Salvage; capitolsalvage.com. **Drapery, rods, table runner**—bedbathandbeyond.com. **Pitcher, cups**—potterybarn.com. **White ceramic vases** from the Classical Vases collection—Frances Palmer Pottery; francespalmerpottery.com. **Hallway: runners** Siena Stripe Woven Runner—Dash & Albert; dashandalbert.com. **Flower stand**—homeowners' collection. **Powder room: zinc vanity, framed mirror** oyster stick wood—Kevin Scanlon; 312/287-9828; kpscanlon@earthlink.net. **Countertop**—Casatelli Marble; casatellimarbleandtile.com. **Sink, faucet**—D&D Fine Homes; danddfinehomesdarien.com. **White ceramic vase** and similar available—Frances Palmer Pottery; francespalmerpottery.com.