



OLD MAKES NEW

[Livingston, Montana]

TAKING CUES FROM THE LOCAL LANDSCAPE, A COUPLE CREATES A MODERN ITERATION OF AN EXISTING FARMHOUSE IN THE BIG SKY STATE WITH PLENTY OF CHARACTER.

THE PROJECT BEGAN AS A RELATIVELY MODEST remodel and became more involved as the layers were peeled away," says Diana Rudolph of the Livingston, Montana, farmhouse she shares with husband Jerry Siem and their son. For the project, Diana, who had previously lived in the home while she split time between Montana and the Florida Keys, assembled an all-star design team: architect Andrew Brechbuhler of Brechbuhler Architects, builder Tim Rote of Dovetail Construction, and interior designer Laura Fedro of Laura Fedro Interiors. "There were simply too many issues with the old farmhouse structure. We wanted to keep the same feel as the original house and did not want to alter the footprint too much, as the site has many mature trees, something that isn't terribly common in Montana."

On that, Diana and the team agreed. "Some of the most important amenities were the seasonal creek along the south side of the home, the big views of the mountain ranges that surround the house, and the general rural nature of the site that afforded more windows, more doors, and more open elements to the

exterior," Brechbuhler says. He chose siding that closely matched (or was a fresh iteration of) original materials, such as replacing gray wood on the existing house with reclaimed redwood. "Our design concept was to interpret the classic Western home and update it in a way that was unique to the clients and their site."

Inside, walls feature lithographs and an oil painting by Russell Chatham, as well as vintage mounted saltwater fish caught by Diana's father in the Keys. Additional features include bar stools topped with plaid upholstery, a custom wool rug, and a dining area sideboard table built by Kevin Cain at Yellowstone Traditions. There's also a screened-in porch with redbird dogwood furniture. "Some of the farmhouse was saved [a wall in the master bedroom was reconstructed from the original home's framing], so the rest of the palette sprung from the farmhouse 'motif,' including reclaimed timber framing, smooth plaster walls, simple wooden cabinets, and interior doors," Fedro says.

"I like how comfortable the home is," Diana says. "It felt like we belonged here when we first walked through the doors. I wouldn't change a thing. It's our home."

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