

Home



High Contrast

Warm interiors, *cool ideas*

For this Montecito dining room, **BROWN DESIGN GROUP** used Benjamin Moore Black to define a hutch integrated within the white tongue and groove walls. To the left is a hidden door panel that leads to a study.

EDITED BY JENNIFER BLAISE KRAMER



Clean SLATE

To reinvent this rare 1960s Luth Maria Riggs Japanese-style home in Montecito, designers **DIEGO MONCHAMP** and **RYAN BROWN** of **BROWN DESIGN GROUP** carefully took it down to the studs. Working with their team's lead designer, Erin McClelland, and DD Ford Construction, they knocked down nearly every interior wall to modernize the house for a young family. Maintaining the original footprint, they created an airy indoor-outdoor kitchen by combining what was previously two rooms separated by a masonry fireplace. There they designed what Monchamp calls "a good example of a double island," where one is extended with butcher block for cooking and prep so that the main island, complete with bar stools, can exist with an uninterrupted flow for entertaining.

For an interior palette of coastal-inspired blues and complementary grays, the designers infused sophisticated yet playful touches throughout—from hot-air balloon wallpaper in the nursery to vintage tennis rackets hung above a bed to whimsical shapes in the living room. Layering in graphic pillows and an Alpaca throw on the daybed adds texture while other key pieces, such as a custom live-edge dining table, lend "an organic feel to an otherwise straight-laced room." Outside, landscaper Rob Maday surrounded the exterior with Asian-inspired grasses and rocks—further homage to the home's design roots. Adds Monchamp: "It looks similar to the original, but we made it much cooler." 303 Palm Ave., Santa Barbara, 805-228-4114. JENNIFER BLAISE KRAMER

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Top to bottom: Living room grays are lit by a **LINDSEY ADELMAN** chandelier; designers **RYAN BROWN** (left) and **DIEGO MONCHAMP**.

SANTA BARBARA



Clockwise from top right: The low-profile **MASTER BEDROOM** opens up to the backyard; black and gold accents give contrast to the room's white walls; the two-tone walnut-white **KITCHEN** keeps a clean, streamlined look thanks to minimal hardware; vintage tennis rackets hung above the **GUEST BED** nod to nearby Knollwood; the **LANDSCAPING** around the pool and tennis court mix a Santa Barbara feel with Asian garden elements to maintain the home's original Japanese style.



PHOTOGRAPHS: MATT WEIR