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**opposite:** Her bathroom with its watery palette and separate free-standing tub in a sea of basket-weave Thassos marble tile.

**right:** His bathroom vanity with a custom mirror hiding two medicine cabinets. The steam shower with its handsome gray tile. Her vanity with its glinting hardware and turned wood leg.

# Divide & Pamper

**N**ow more than ever, homeowners are learning the value of separate spaces. Case in point: these divided his-and-hers bathrooms designed by Douglas VanderHorn Architects for a classic brick Georgian home. When reimagining the main suite, VanderHorn decided to take a tip from a behavioral quirk of one of the clients: The husband had taken to using a small bath in a nearby bedroom, instead of the main bathroom, so he wouldn't wake his wife. The new layout replaces a bedroom with closets and distinct bathrooms, complete with water closets and wow-worthy washing areas. An added bonus? Separate spaces means no quibbling over design compromises, allowing each space its own aesthetic. The wife's bathroom favors a light palette with watery blue

walls that add a breath of color to the down-like gray custom vanity with its turned wooden feet. The homeowner can start her day in the marble shower before a quick pamper at the custom makeup station. The freestanding tub by the window alcove—floating in a sea of basket-weave Thassos marble tile—invites for evening soaks. His bathroom, meanwhile, is a handsome interplay of light and dark. The richly stained vanity contrasts with the cloudy walls, with an industrial-leaning light fixture drawing the eye upwards. The soapstone countertop, dark and threaded with gray, mirrors the natural variation of the honed herringbone floor tile. And the steam shower with its anti-fog mirror upgrades a morning shave from a chore to a spa-like indulgence. From the radiant heat of the floors to the automated roll shades, what unites these spaces is a top-to-bottom take on luxury.

— BY NATHAN TAVARES





# Cottage Core

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**opposite page:** The entryway to the refined-yet-unfussy kitchen, where the paneled Tudor arch matches the swooping shape in the island. **left:** Light from the leaded glass triple casement windows shimmers on the sink hardware and side lights. The pantry with its blue-lacquered cabinets peek towards the wine storage room. **below:** Fashioned like an antique-inspired hutch, this custom cabinet houses a bar sink and stows the refrigerator and freezer.

Standing under those paneled Tudor archways of this graceful kitchen, you might forget that you're not actually in a centuries-old home in the rolling English countryside. Douglas VanderHorn Architects crafted a stone English country cottage that feels like an antique lovingly cared for generation after generation, and the kitchen had to exude that same vintage elegance. But where those actual cottages are often cramped, outdated and dark, this hub of the home for a modern family called for a spacious and storage-packed layout. With a mix of refined and more rustic materials, the finishes bring the pinnacle of past inspiration into the bright present. The stained hardwood floors showcase all the natural variation of the material—knots and all. That same beauty threads through the natural wood island and the beams that crown the space. Other finishes exude elegance, from the metal range hood to the white painted cabinetry and the saturated backsplash that's the blue-gray of English mornings. And here, the light itself is almost an architectural element as it streams in through the leaded glass triple casement windows and glints off the family heirloom-like hanging pendant lights. The adjoining pantry, though, flirts with a bit more flair. High-gloss lacquered paint—echoing the blue-gray of the backsplash—graces the cabinets and trim of the jewel box of a space, catching the glow from the light fixture like a cluster of gems. In the nearby the wine storage room, the homeowners can grab some vintage red off the American cherry shelving before drinking in the vintage vibe of their graceful getaway. — BY NATHAN TAVARES







# Work It

The main office contains a built-in desk and special items like the leather Ralph Lauren rhino ottoman and wingback chair that the client has owned for years.

**T**his light-infused, elegant office and library has come a long way from its former identity as a dark, cramped upstairs playroom. Douglas VanderHorn Architects and his team capitalized on the space's "tree house" effect with its views of the property's treetops and lush vegetation by removing two small gabled dormers and adding two new larger ones. Double-hung windows were also installed, and three skylights set into the ceiling to allow sunlight to flood the room and highlight the contrasts among the rich colors, deep hardwoods and earthy leather and metal accents. Full-height paneling is consistent throughout and evokes an old-world, yet current feel.

Trovare Home Design in Greenwich worked to achieve the client's goal

of creating a beautiful space that was set apart from the rest of the house. They painted both rooms in Benjamin Moore's Amazon Green, which evokes a refined and timeless look. Upon entering the space, guests see a handsome lounge that can be used to formally greet clients or as a relaxing refuge at the end of the day. Built-in shelving and cabinets house the owner's collection of books and vinyl record albums, and custom closet cabinetry adds storage space underneath the main roof pitch.

This renovation was finished at the onset of COVID and brought the client's work-from-home experience to a new level, particularly since at-home offices have become a critical part of working life. The owner couldn't be happier about this unique retreat that honors the serene views and gives him a place to be productive.

— MALIA MCKINNON FRAME

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**above:** Custom shelving, metal and brass accessories and sconces add warmth. A portrait of the owner's late father occupies a prominent spot on the wall above an iconic Linn Sondek LP-12 turntable. **left:** The cozy lounge functions as a formal place to greet clients.



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**both pages:** The front and rear elevations of this new build are strikingly different; the front looks like the house has been there since the 19th century, while the rear, the waterfront side, with French doors, terraces and windows, celebrates the amenities to enjoy multi-generational family parties.

# Double Vision

**F**rom the front, it looks like a traditional 19th-century shingle summer house befitting the traditional estates along the Greenwich harbor—the swooping lines of the double gables, weathered shingles and traditional, pleasing proportions of windows in their varied shapes. Tuscan half-columns on stone bases create a solid, understated, comfortable formality to the entrance beneath a covered porch.

But take a look at the waterfront side! French doors, windows, terraces and a four-story tower preside over a pool and lawn that slope to the water. Beneath the façade of Alaskan yellow cedar, this is a new build with all the contemporary amenities.

The idea was “approachable eclecticism.” The four-story tower makes a statement from the water and creates intimate and alluring spaces within. In the main bedroom, it’s an alcove with the best water views (an ongoing debate in a house filled with amazing views). On the top floor, it’s an alluring covered balcony. Inside, an open concept maximizes water views. The entry invites guests through three wide openings into the great room, where four sets of French doors with glass transoms open to the terrace.

The lowest level has playrooms for multi-generational gatherings. For the grandkids, there’s a pirate ship with three decks, and lots of places to climb, hide and store treasures. The bunk room has a nautical theme with built-in beds under a curved beamed ceiling. The adult space has a wet bar, billiards table, access to the terrace and pool and great views. — **ELIZABETH KEYSER**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROBERT BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY AND WOODRUFF/BROWN  
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## Douglas VanderHorn Architects

**F**or his new headquarters in Greenwich, architect Douglas VanderHorn demonstrates what can lie behind an historic façade. He brought back the front exterior of this 1928 historic house, restoring and replacing windows and cladding it in Alaskan yellow cedar shingles. Inside is bright, open and airy, with curved features, like the arched window niche in the reception area. Reclaimed clear leaded glass pocket doors allow light into the library/conference room, where a curved wall and slightly bowed beams give a nautical reference. The main workroom makes the most of the façade's windows, with natural light illuminating workstations with lots of counter space and lower built-in storage. Downstairs, the break room has polished concrete floors, and garage doors that open to a patio where staff can eat lunch. A ping pong table provides an outlet for friendly competition and sometimes, an aha moment. — *ELIZABETH KEYSER*

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