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CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

With clean lines, rustic accents, and cheerful pops of yellow, this laid-back Newport Beach home showcases an easy, breezy approach to classic farmhouse design. Bring on the sandy feet!

WRITTEN BY ELIZABETH JENKINS PHOTOGRAPHS BY KARYN MILLET STYLING BY HEATHER BULLARD

This built-in concrete cook space was inspired by a Pinterest photo featuring the work of Dutch designer Piet-Jan van den Kommer of WWO.



Board-and-batten siding, barn lighting, and X-brace planters set a decidedly country tone at this coastal escape.

THE SCOTT FAMILY
Lauren and John and their three sons (Nolan, 5, Maxwell, 7, and Ford, 2)



When Atlanta transplants Lauren and John Scott set out to renovate their Newport Beach, California, bungalow, they ran into a problem. The home's foundation lacked rebar (steel reinforcement) and, therefore, would need to be rebuilt. Initially crestfallen, the couple eventually viewed the roadblock as a silver lining. "It cost us. But we realized that we could build exactly what we wanted, exactly where we wanted it," explains Lauren, who decorated the home.

What they wanted was a thoroughly modern farmhouse: a clean, rustic space with a sunny, come-as-you-are vibe. To achieve the look, Lauren and John teamed up with Eric Olsen, a local architect known for his mix of raw wood and industrial materials. From the first meeting, he and the Scotts were in sync on virtually every design decision, from the shape of the house (C) to the height (single story) and even the style of the interior walls (shiplap painted a bright white). "The Scotts are a young, fun family. I immediately connected with their open, unpretentious concept," he says. That shared vision made the design and construction process as breezy as the new interiors. From the bright entryway to the eclectic bedrooms, here's how Lauren and Eric developed a cool, contemporary country home.

LIVING ROOM

Eric designed this space, the only two-story room in the house, with country style to the hilt: a steep-pitched ceiling, paneled walls, wood floors, and an influx of natural light. Lauren enhanced the traditional design with hits of yellow and ample organic materials.

◀ ENTRY

A barnwood accent wall paired with old stadium seating and abstract artwork sets a modern-rustic vibe.



At nearly 6 feet wide, this wooden filly (found at South of Market in Atlanta; southofmarket.biz) makes a modern, graphic statement.

White Dove
Benjamin Moore



Nubby oversize basket pendants (they're 2 feet tall!) add texture and offer up plenty of task lighting

A barn-inspired X-brace supports and adds warmth to the thick marble-topped island.



◀ **THE KITCHEN**

Eric gave the classic white kitchen a fresh update with floor-to-ceiling wood embellishments, including a band of reclaimed boards around the sleek range hood. He also incorporated not one, but two islands so Lauren could have plenty of room to bake. "I wanted a work space where the boys and I could really spread out. Nothing says 'I love you' like fresh cookies and a tall glass of milk."

▲ **DINING ROOM**

Beyond the secondary island is the dining table, which Lauren had cut down from a larger antique piece to fit the space and paired the reclaimed wood slab with a sleek steel frame. Just beyond the eating area, Eric designed a wet bar with a prep sink, wine fridge, coffeemaker, and ample glassware storage. When entertaining, Lauren uses the built-in chalkboard to highlight the evening's menu or speciality drink.



"I wanted a work space where the boys and I could spread out. Nothing says 'I love you' like fresh cookies and milk."



Lauren smartly paired two twin headboards to create this sloping statement piece.

MASTER BEDROOM ▲

The wood headboard provides a focal point in Lauren and John's room, and the entwined-wood chandelier (*shadesoflight.com*) complements its finish. But the real scene-stealer is the ample natural light: The home's clever C layout allows it to pour in from two directions—the front yard on one side and the courtyard on the other. The adjoining master bath is connected by way of large barn doors. "I like that they act as a piece of art on the wall," says Eric.

BOYS' BEDROOM ►

The Scotts' two older boys, Maxwell and Nolan, share the only room in the house without white walls. The soft blue, echoed in the bedding, provides a coastal-y contrast to the vibrant orange accessories. Built-in shelves behind the bed echo the wood paneling in the entryway and provide a spot for the boys to stash books, trophies, and other childhood treasures.



COZY READING NOOK
 "An upholstered daybed creates an inviting spot to curl up with a book—or take a nap!"
New Canaan Daybed, from \$799; *ballarddesigns.com*



WOOD PANELING
 "Our oak-planked walls make the house feel much older than it is."
Reclaimed Barn Paneling, from \$5.50/square foot; *antiquebeamsandboards.com*



REPURPOSED SEATING
 "Both storied and sturdy, old stadium seats are perfect for a house with three boys!"
Custom Bench, \$297; *archerseating.com*

WHAT MAKES MY HOME
COUNTRY

"We want our house to have a relaxed element. When people come to visit, we want them to think 'I don't want to leave!'"
 —Lauren Scott



BATIK PRINTS
 "I love the texture this ancient textile design brings to a room."
Indigo Pillow, \$165; *www.shopskout.com*



X-BRACE DESIGNS
 "I used this barn motif on everything from the front planters to the kitchen island."
Gatehouse Planter, \$399 for 20" x 20"; *blueoceantraders.com*



POPS OF YELLOW
 "The sunny hue is a country classic that's also totally fresh."
Milk Glass Set, \$135/set of 3; *robertsiegelstudio.com*



RATTAN PENDANT
 "I'm always looking for new pieces that look like they could have had a past life. This fixture resembles a fisherman's basket."
Santa Monica Pendant, \$295; *serenaandlily.com*



GROSGRAIN TRIM
 "Roman shades with ribbon trim pack a graphic punch. No frilly curtains required!"
Custom Flat Shade, from \$199; *idealwindowfashions.etsy.com*

PILLOW, DAVID HILLEGAS; SHADES, SCOTT CAMERA & STUDIO.