

How do you create the feeling of “Michigan farm life” in a coastal home in Naples? And how do you blend the two seemingly disparate styles? Lynn Lombardi, Principal of LDL Interiors, and Designer Lauren Lombardi of LDL Interiors would say it’s all in the thoughtfully sourced details.

Steven Greenwald, founding partner of GWB Custom Homes, and his wife Heather once had a 150-acre working farm in Michigan, and they loved the farm lifestyle. After greener pastures lured them to Florida, they missed the feeling of “home,” which to them meant “farm.” LDL Interiors’ relationship with the Greenwalds started four years ago, so when they wanted to build a home, it was only natural they brought LDL Interiors along for the horseback ride.

“The client herself had such a vision for this project, and she really wanted to bring in her feeling of home,” Lauren Lombardi says. “When you think of Naples design, you think of coastal, blues, and maybe contemporary — and that was not her at all. It was exciting to get into something different here.”

The homeowners didn’t want the home to be western, per se, and certainly not overly rustic. They wanted classic and reminiscent of home. Absolutely refined, and nothing overly done. Creating the “coastal cowboy” look, as the design team dubbed it, took an evolutionary process to land on just the right details that would conjure the cowboy with a backdrop of classic to ensure the style didn’t stray too far from a home befitting of its coastal location. ▶

Family Room: Eschewing the traditional coastal palette, which largely hinges on blue hues, this home’s palette embraces the crisp contrast of black and white with touches of warm wood tones. Black accents throughout play off the modern black window frames — a classic, timeless design detail. The fireplace surround created by David Nelson Masonry whispers rustic farmhouse — a significant departure from traditional coastal design. To introduce the “cowboy” elements, the LDL Interiors design team selected a leather sofa and Roberta Schilling Collection chairs with a leather strap design. A triptych photograph by local artist Michelle Tricca and a found saddle displayed near the front door solidify the “cowboy coastal” aesthetic.



REDEFINING COASTAL

A MIDWESTERN TWIST ON
CONTEMPORARY FLORIDA DESIGN



"Family is very important to the homeowners, and they like to be the house where all the kids and their friends come and hang out," Lauren Lombardi says. "She is just an amazing host. So the kitchen is absolutely the heart of the home." The wife loves to cook but also wants plenty of space for people to gather in the kitchen, so the team developed a split-island concept to provide easier access to the far island. The wood cabinet sections and drawers — sans hardware — harken to an old country store feel. The amalgamation of those with classic white cabinetry, honed marble countertops from Design Works, black accents, wood beams, patinaed hardware, and vintage light fixtures featuring industrial hooks is the perfect blend of timeless classic and farm-style aesthetics.

Service Kitchen | Pantry: Behind the kitchen range wall is a service kitchen for additional storage and prep space, and adjoining it is a large pantry with a mix of cabinetry and open shelving. The cabinetry styles and color palette remain the same — even the tongue-and-groove ceiling, as seen in the kitchen, runs through this area. However, the design team switched up the details, opting for black soapstone countertops from Design Works and black iron cabinet hardware. The pantry's Dutch door is another nod to farm life.





Office: The original plan was to use the eye-catching green-black in the husband's office. However, when the design team saw the stark contrast between the walls and the white ceiling, they opted to carry the striking paint color all the way up. "It creates a cozy and very focused atmosphere for doing work," Lauren Lombardi says. "It's grounding and very masculine." The leather sofa — which both designers referred to as "soft as butter" — was a concern given the homeowners have three dogs. As soon as it was delivered, the dogs scratched it, and it became part of the lived-in patina of the sofa that now looks well-loved and used. A longhorn skull, custom hide-topped stools, and two black leather chairs from the homeowners' farm add to the ambiance.

Bar: The bar takes on a moody, speakeasy vibe with its Sherwin-Williams green-black cabinetry color alongside rich wood tones. Perfect for entertaining — thanks to its separate location with proximity to the kitchen and family room areas — it includes a full Sub-Zero wine tower with refrigeration underneath, plus a bar sink and an ice maker. The cabinet hardware, which repeats in the kitchen and primary bathroom, is an unlacquered brass designed to patina with time and use — a farmhouse nod.



Staircase: As the construction progressed, the builders could have saved time and money on the staircase railing. However, the LDL Interiors team lobbied to stick to the vision of creating this horse-fence design detail, a hallmark of the homeowners' vision for the house. Vintage racks display the homeowners' hats. Montage European oak flooring throughout the home lends a beautiful barn wood feel while expressing a decidedly contemporary twist with the angles it creates through the rooms.

"Being that the house sits on a pie-shaped lot, we worked closely with Falconer Jones, the architect on this project, as it's not always easy to make a house of this caliber and size fit on a lot like this and still have that open, airy feel while maintaining the gorgeous views of the bay," says Josh Greenwald of GWB Custom Homes and Steven's son. The result created a design challenge for the many irregularly shaped rooms. ▶





Primary Bathroom: The primary bathroom, while outfitted with all the modern conveniences — including a steam shower — has a decidedly vintage feel from the honed natural stone flooring to the soapstone countertops to the traditional silhouettes of the fixtures. The stars of the show in this space are the custom vanities and tall cabinet. “She wanted an apothecary chest so it looks like an old pharmacy,” Lynn Lombardi says. “She wanted it to look like a furniture piece; it’s a built-in linen closet.” Other stand-out features are the barn wood-style beam above the window that adds to the rich wood tones of the space and, of course, the cowboy photograph by Michelle Tricca.



Primary Bedroom: The primary bedroom is a serene space that prioritizes the water views. “She wanted it to be a restful place,” Lauren Lombardi says. “It’s got a coastal feel from the finishes in combination with the nightstands and the bed.” The soaring coffered ceilings lent well to a Brownstone Furniture four-poster bed, and hints of “cowboy” come through in the mohair chairs by Thayer Coggin and a hide-upholstered bench.

About the kitchen, in particular, Lauren Lombardi says, “Although it’s a huge kitchen, the dining area got a little tight. Having six people at the counter and then being able to sit six to eight at the table was also kind of tricky. What shape of table? How do we make this work? Do we have too many rectangles? It was truly a balancing act.” Despite the challenges, the team clearly made it work — Greenwald says his stepmom Heather’s favorite part of the home is the kitchen.

“It’s just a blending of so many aesthetics, and it’s different from what we’ve done in the past,” Lynn Lombardi says. “It was a privilege to work with the client because she had such a clear vision, allowing us to expand our design sources outside our regular wheelhouse. It was definitely a growth experience.” ■

Powder Room: Many powder rooms host “go big or go home” designs, and this one is no exception. However, the “big” in this case is 100 percent “farm.” Everything in this space screams farm style, from the cow wallpaper to the barn-style wainscot to the traditional pedestal sink from Kallista. While sleek and clean, even the pivot mirror and sconces conjure a classic Midwestern sensibility.



Guest Bedroom: The spaces upstairs are generally for the kids, including this guest bedroom, so the design team eschewed the cowboy style up here and elected to focus on coastal with the crisp black and white palette. The shiplap walls and ceiling create the perfect backdrop for the black metal four-poster bed. In keeping with kid- and pet-friendly design, the rugs upstairs are indoor-outdoor quality. A sitting desk gives the room the feel of a hotel suite.



Loft: Because the homeowners want a house where their guests and friends like to hang out, they opted for a bonus room upstairs, complete with a TV room for movie nights and a kitchenette with a microwave, refrigerator, dishwasher, and snacks and drinks. “Our client really wanted this to be a place for them to entertain their friends, hang out, feel comfortable, but also still be relaxed,” Lynn Lombardi says. The designers specified durable furniture, such as the sectional from Bassett Furniture and a dining table and chairs with fun curved shapes from Verellen

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