

## KEY WEST LIVING

Sleek White Walls, Stunning Wood Flooring And Accent Colors To Reflect The Water Give This Islamorada Home The Feel Of An Old Florida Beach House

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WHEN TARA AND DEREK Rodberg decided to relocate from New Jersey to Islamorada in the Florida Keys, they knew exactly what they wanted. The couple, who owns Islamorada Boatworks, was seeking a year-round waterfront lifestyle with lots of swimming, fishing and boating. When they found the perfect property with glorious views of Snake Creek, a body of water that connects the bay to the ocean, they built a new home including a guesthouse with its own garage.

RIGHT: On the porch-style patio overlooking the pool and Snake Creek, Westminster Teak's furnishings cushioned in a teal and white stripe from Duralée shape intimate social groupings, while brass wall lanterns by Genie House add just the right touch of coastal charm.





The Mountain Lumber Co. provided all of the oak in the house including what was used for this traditional stairway. "We combined the Colonial look for the stairway with our own custom design," Allabastro says.

"I FEEL VERY COMFORTABLE HERE AND AM HAPPY THAT THE KIDS CAN TAKE THE BOATS OUT ON THEIR OWN," TARA SAYS. "DEREK AND I ARE THRILLED THEY CAN ENJOY THE SAME WATERFRONT LIFESTYLE HE HAD GROWING UP IN THE KEYS."



The combination Colonial-Key West style exterior is classic white with custom teal shutters. Inside, the wood flooring, which runs from the house to the patio, is a special engineered oak, highly resistant to stain or disfiguring.

A unique rear porch-style patio surrounds the pool to shape one of the family's favorite places to relax and enjoy the coastal scene. The entire porch overlooks the pool and Snake Creek. With brass outdoor lighting, this open-air space can be used for entertaining day or night.

The fun continues at the "Tike Hut" conveniently located at one end of the pool. This well-executed area is defined by durable white columns and a pitched roof that covers the custom-designed bar topped with double-edged granite. "The family can see the ocean, canal, Snake Creek and the pool from this spot," the designer says. "They spend a lot of time out there, and the boys enjoy fishing."

For the children or out of town family and friends, the guesthouse, better known as the "game room over the garage," sleeps eight comfortably in custom bunk beds designed by Allabastro. Again, blue, brown and teal hues provide bold accents against the white background.

above: Woven abaca armchairs and a matching cocktail ottoman from David Francis Furniture take center stage in the guesthouse — a favorite gathering place for the Rodberg teen-agers, their friends and visiting family. Custom bunk beds and a built-in bench designed by Allabastro provide ample space to nod off after a long day of water fun.

This subtropical master bedroom is pure bliss for the couple when they want to relax and enjoy the peaceful water views in private. In coastal cottage style, poplar beadboard backs Somerset Bay's lime-green bed appointed with crisp white linens.



White and lime green contrast in the master bath, where Kohler's freestanding, clawfoot tub is positioned to capture outside garden views reflected in the etched Venetian glass mirror from La Barge.



A beautiful combination of the Colonial look with a Keys custom design, the traditional oak stairway leads the way upstairs past charming wrought-iron wall sconces to an island-style master bedroom. Here, Allabastro kept the serene openness in mind when she created a peaceful retreat with open rafters, beaded boards and a private all-around balcony overlooking amazing water views. "We repeated the indoor-outdoor theme for this room by combining white walls with a lime-green thistle bed and floral accents," Allabastro says.

The theme continues in the master bath, where lime green contrasts with white walls, a white old-style claw tub and a white vanity that stretches around the room. Picturesque views of the front gardens catch the eye through the many windows fashioned with bright lime-green shades that lower for privacy when needed.

Laid-back and with a sophisticated interpretation of a coastal look, the Rodbergs new home is designed for family and fun, sporting everything imaginable for a waterfront lifestyle. And they can't get enough of the crystal blue water views.



"We see a lot of activity since we are located by the drawbridge, where boats in all shapes and sizes are always coming and going," Tara says. "We all enjoy it . . . this is our dream come true."