

Good Vibes Only

Situated on Michigan's Magician Lake, this vibrant, happy escape offers a blissful backdrop for memory-making. Here's how to capture the same sunny magic.



The view always comes first.

The homeowners made sure the house was situated to take full advantage of the lot's spectacular views. When they first bought the property, they stood on ladders trying to figure out the best vantage point. The ladders have since been swapped for a deck filled with an abundance of outdoor furniture (worldmarket.com) where friends and family can hang out and enjoy drinks.

WRITTEN BY Rhonda Reinhart PHOTOGRAPHY BY Diana Paulson STYLING BY Jennifer Berno DeCleene



Seat a big crowd.

Megan and her designers took a hunt-and-gather approach to sourcing the mismatched dining room chairs (above). "We kept an eye out at our local antiques shops, and when something special came in, we would grab it," she says. Steve and Filip freshened up the chairs with linseed oil but otherwise left them as-is, nicks, chips, and all. Says Steve, "It's nice to have chairs in different sizes for people of all ages."

Bring on the whimsy.

In addition to the antique barber pole, which stands tall over Jesse and golden-doodle Rocky, there are fun elements in every room, including an old emergency fire ladder in the living room, a grand valet chair in the dining room, and the bright-red rotary phone in the kitchen (opposite).



Embrace drip-proof materials.

Encaustic "Toscana 908" tile (granadastile.com) pops in the kitchen along with a cool blue island topped with easy-to-clean Cambria "White Cliff" countertops. "A lot of country kitchens would have a farmhouse table in the middle of the space, so we wanted to give it that vibe," says Steve. "Tractor Seat" bar stools (restorationhardware.com) are easy to wipe down, too.



The "memory wall" in the kitchen features magnetized photos of the family's loved ones.

Jamestown
Blue
Benjamin Moore



Heritage Red
Benjamin Moore

Build a seriously epic bunk room. (It sleeps 12!)

Full-size beds on bottom and twins on top make for plenty of sleeping space when cousins come to visit. "It's magical," says Megan. "I can't believe how many people can fit in that room!" Draperies in a bold pattern (ikea.com for fabric) add privacy to each bunk.



Stuart Gold
Benjamin Moore

Bring on the sunshine.

The upstairs bathroom bursts with color and bright ideas, from the custom cabinets in vivid yellow to the coordinating encaustic "Estrada" cement floor tiles (granadatile.com) and three faucets—one for each kid. And then there's the playful mirror mounted on the window frame. "That's a fun trick," says Steve. "The chains are decorative. You can make the mirror appear like it's hanging, even when it's not."

Stack up the camp trunks.

A set of vintage trunk pairs nicely with a "Claudette" bed (baldardesigns.com) clad in colorful bedding (ikea.com). A tiny Swedish birdhouse in traditional blue-and-white filigree complements the lean "Waterfall Blue" curtains (fabricut.com).



Follow your arrow.

The red arrow, found at a local junk shop, is a nod to Harbor County's famed Red Arrow Highway. But the main attraction here is the view. "You almost feel like you're in a tree house," says Steve.



Smoke Embers
Benjamin Moore