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September 2017

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A photograph of a dining table set for a meal. In the center is a large, light blue ceramic vase filled with a bouquet of pink and white dahlias. The table is set with white plates, blue glassware, and wooden bowls. In the foreground, there is a small black bowl filled with oranges and a peach. The background shows a window with a white frame and a large, white, pleated lampshade hanging above the table.

## MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME

Stylist **Emily Henderson's** new house in Los Angeles is organized, inspiring...and decorated for real life. She invited *Real Simple* over for an exclusive visit.

BY STEPHANIE SISCO

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TESSA NEUSTADT









Emily opted to paint the walls of the main living spaces shades of gray and white so the furniture and accent pieces could give her home the character she craved. “You can mix however many styles you want as long as you have a consistent color palette peppered evenly throughout,” she says. Here, lighter wood tones accented with blues and greens make the blend of classic and contemporary elements look purposeful. Every corner of Emily’s home incorporates a balance of the two styles:

Midcentury dining chairs offset the antique farmhouse table, while the vintage pendant light above the island counteracts the more modern barstools. Then she softened each living space with an assortment of pillows and textiles, fabric window treatments, and upholstered furniture pieces. “The downstairs is where we spend the majority of our time together, spilling outside when friends come to visit,” says Emily. “So we tried to make each area on that floor as inviting as possible.”

### **gathering spot**

The patio tile was an investment, says Emily, but since it’s visible from the kitchen, dining room, and living room, she decided it was worth the cost. If you’re going to splurge, she says, do so on a statement-making element, like tile or wallpaper.

**SHOP THE LOOK:** (Above left) Paint on Island: Green Smoke, \$99 per gallon; [farrow-ball.com](http://farrow-ball.com). Barbican stools, \$379 each; [hedgehousefurniture.com](http://hedgehousefurniture.com). (Above right) Burgos custom tile; [granadatle.com](http://granadatle.com) for info. Threshold Mantega faux-wood folding patio dining table (similar to shown), \$280, and Threshold Standish club chairs, \$300 for 2; [target.com](http://target.com). (Opposite page) Deep-blue drinking glasses, \$20 each, and Khadi towel (as runner), \$65; [lostandfoundshop.com](http://lostandfoundshop.com). Pembridge stripe napkins, \$40 for 4; [thewhitecompany.com](http://thewhitecompany.com). Threshold Graham stainless-steel gold flatware, \$2 each, and Threshold Vista library cabinet with glass, \$220; [target.com](http://target.com).