

# New England HOME

Celebrating Fine Design, Architecture, and Building

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Old meets new  
on Nantucket  
and a high-style  
colonial revival  
restoration

## Julian Edelman's Oasis

New England's own  
Super Bowl MVP shares  
his Back Bay home



# SPECIAL FOCUS: STYLE SURVEY

| EDITED BY ERIKA AYN FINCH AND KYLE HOEPNER |



**E**ach year we engage with the women and men of New England's residential design and building community to find out just what aesthetic currents they see ebbing and flowing in our part of the world. Asked to comment on a wide range of style trends and ideas relating to architecture, interiors, landscapes, and more, here is what they told us.



## Ornamented ceilings: Decorative paint treatments

TRENDING: 12% ↗ | 50% → | 33% ↘

"As wallpaper increases in popularity, with growth in style and texture options, requests for decorative paint treatments are decreasing. That said, if a paper can be reproduced by a skilled faux painter, we will often encourage our clients go that route, to create a seamless look that will last much longer than wallpaper."

—Brady-Anne Cushing, *Knickerbocker Group*

## Ornamented ceilings: Wallpaper

TRENDING: 25% ↗ | 63% → | 12% ↘

"I have always believed in this and have done it since I started out in design back in 1982. I am doing a ceiling now in Florida that will receive a lilac metallic papered treatment."

—John Berenson, *John Berenson Interior Design*

"This is one bold design trend that just doesn't seem to go out of style. Wallpaper can be outfitted to any room and introduce a whole new personality."

—Kate Jackson, *Kate Jackson Interior Design*

## Ornamented ceilings: Plaster ornament

TRENDING: 14% ↗ | 57% → | 29% ↘

## Steel-frame doors and windows

TRENDING: 50% ↗ | 33% → | 17% ↘

"This seems to be a steady or growing trend, both for additions to older homes and for more transitional and contemporary design. We are currently working on two projects where we achieve a similar aesthetic by using thin, black-painted wood frames."

—Andrew Reck

"Steel windows and doors are not a great fit for New England's climate. Even products available with a thermal break may still create pools of water inside the home due to the inevitable condensation. We're seeing a growing interest in thermally broken aluminum as well as wood-clad aluminum."

—Stephanie Horowitz, *ZeroEnergy Design*

## Fireplaces sheathed in stone panels

TRENDING: 72% ↗ | 14% → | 14% ↘

"Many of our clients are opting for floor-to-ceiling fireplaces faced with stone slabs, with the natural

## Architectural Style and Structure

### Ornamented ceilings: Beams and paneling

TRENDING: 70% ↗ | 20% → | 10% ↘

"Beams and paneling are a classic ceiling treatment, and they remain effective ways to express scale and enhance the character of a space."

—Andrew Reck, *Oak Hill Architects*

"In an effort to add layers, warmth, shadows, and relief to sparer, more modern spaces, ceilings are becoming a way to 'play dress up' and be noticed. Wallpaper and paint treatments have remained solid for the past many years, and architectural elements are the new wallpaper."

—Dean Sawyer, *LDA Architecture & Interiors*

1. Reading nooks, like this one by ZeroEnergy Design, are now replacing homework rooms.
2. Knickerbocker Group installed a movable wall system to open this home to the outdoors.
3. LDA Architecture & Interiors designed this tidy dressing room for a male client.

- ↗ = Growing
- = Holding steady
- ↘ = Declining



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veining of the stone arranged to create a visual effect.” —Carlotta Cubi Mandra, *Cumar*

### Terrazzo floors

TRENDING: **43%** ↗ | **14%** → | **43%** ↘

“Terrazzo anything. Love it as a tabletop or bath wall.”  
—Dean Sawyer

### Herringbone and/or chevron wood flooring

TRENDING: **44%** ↗ | **56%** → | **0%** ↘

“We’re seeing increased interest in herringbone patterns in tile work rather than wood flooring.”  
—Stephanie Horowitz

“We’ve been integrating herringbone patterns into exterior hardscapes more and more—especially for brick terraces and walkways. We’ve also done this with larger-scale pavers such as bluestone.”  
—Matthew Cunningham, *Matthew Cunningham Landscape Design*

### NanaWalls and other disappearing window-walls

TRENDING: **67%** ↗ | **33%** → | **0%** ↘

“They can be an incredible way to open a space to the outside world and welcome a view unfiltered by the lines of traditional doors and windows.”  
—Brady-Anne Cushing

“We’re seeing a growing interest in oversize lift-and-slide doors. They are easy to operate, take advantage of beautiful views in both open and closed positions, and establish generous indoor-outdoor connections.”  
—Stephanie Horowitz

### His and hers home offices

TRENDING: **63%** ↗ | **37%** → | **0%** ↘

“It’s important for couples to have their own spaces to retreat to...especially today, with so many dual-career couples.” —John Berenson

### His and hers dressing rooms

TRENDING: **70%** ↗ | **20%** → | **10%** ↘

“In another step toward gender equality, his closet is growing to equal—or occasionally exceed—her dressing room in square footage.”  
—Karen Gilman, *Finelines*

“Dressing rooms are such an integral part of how



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4. Herringbone flooring, such as the Manhattan collection from Carlisle Wide Plank Floors, is gaining in popularity.  
5. This black-and-white living room by designer Nicole Hogarty—including just a touch or two of taupe—is definitely on-trend.

clients begin and end their day. More and more personalized details are being put into these rooms, with larger investments in high-end materials.”

—Julie Lyons, *Roomscapes Cabinetry & Design Center*

### Homework rooms

TRENDING: **42%** ↗ | **29%** → | **29%** ↘

“With kids doing more work on laptops, they can work anywhere in the house. So, no need for a designated room. Reading nooks have replaced the built-in desk spaces we did all through the early 2000s.”  
—Dean Sawyer

## Colors, Finishes, and Details

### Colors: Millennial pink

TRENDING: **50%** ↗ | **17%** → | **33%** ↘

“We have recently had a nice run on Oushak rugs that include pops of various vibrant colors such as pink, teal, blue, and coral.”  
—Jeffrey Arcari, *Landry & Arcari Rugs and Carpeting*

### Colors: Lavender

TRENDING: **67%** ↗ | **33%** → | **0%** ↘

“Lavender is a color that re-emerges time and time again. I love it and find it peaceful and restful. When used in the right proportion, especially with a shade of gray, it almost becomes a non-color, like a soft, dusky evening.” —John Berenson

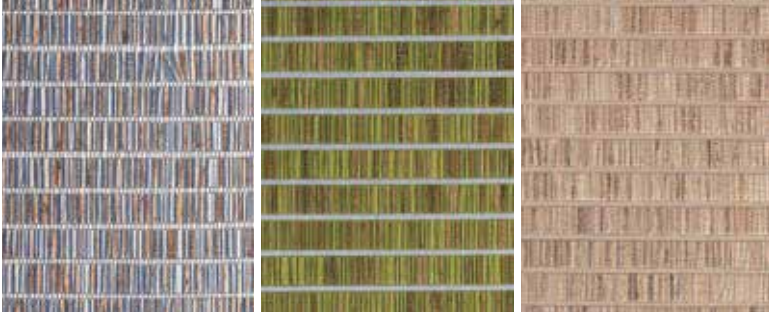
“An elusive color, yet gorgeous when applied correctly.” —Nicole Hogarty, *Nicole Hogarty Designs*

### Colors: All-white interiors

TRENDING: **29%** ↗ | **71%** → | **0%** ↘

“All-white will never go away.” —Karen Gilman

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1. Popham Design's Honeycomb Hex concrete field tiles are available through Ann Sacks.
2. The Totally Tatami glasscloth collection from Phillip Jeffries is based on the look of traditional Japanese straw matting.

**Colors: Black and white**

TRENDING: **38%** ↗ | **50%** → | **12%** ↘

"Black and white can be exciting, bold, sophisticated, or whimsical, and when done right will stand the test of time." —John Berenson

**Colors: Black and white with taupe or caramel**

TRENDING: **40%** ↗ | **60%** → | **0%** ↘

"Black and white seems to stay steady as a trend. It helps to mix in wood tones, to keep things a little less severe." —Dean Sawyer

**Colors: Jewel tones—sapphire, emerald, ruby, etc.**

TRENDING: **72%** ↗ | **14%** → | **14%** ↘

**Wallcoverings: Chinoiserie murals such as Gracie or de Gournay**

TRENDING: **80%** ↗ | **20%** → | **0%** ↘

"Asian motifs and styles mix well not only with classical English and French interiors, but also modern." —John Berenson

"There is a generation of clients and designers in their 30s and early 40s who lusted after these prints in *Domino*, *Martha Stewart*, and *Elle Décor* before they could afford them . . . and now some can." —Dean Sawyer

**Wallcoverings: Ombré and other stylized patterns**

TRENDING: **60%** ↗ | **20%** → | **20%** ↘

"A little ombré goes a long way." —Dean Sawyer

**Wallcoverings: Plain grasscloth**

TRENDING: **67%** ↗ | **33%** → | **0%** ↘

"A big comeback for these wonderful textures that give depth and interest to boring painted walls." —John Berenson

"There are some wonderful vinyl versions that won't scratch you when you walk by." —Dean Sawyer

**Wallcoverings: Decorated grasscloth**

TRENDING: **25%** ↗ | **25%** → | **50%** ↘

**Wallcoverings: Tropical plant motifs**

TRENDING: **0%** ↗ | **75%** → | **25%** ↘

**Shelving backed with decorative paint or paper**

TRENDING: **33%** ↗ | **67%** → | **0%** ↘

"May this trend never tire—it's a great way to use paper and keep it framed and focused!" —Dean Sawyer

"Backed by decorative elements such as exposed brick, open shelving quickly becomes a statement piece." —Julie Lyons

**Gallery walls**

TRENDING: **0%** ↗ | **80%** → | **20%** ↘

**Oversized art**

TRENDING: **60%** ↗ | **40%** → | **0%** ↘

"Bold art will never go out of style. It's a fantastic way to make a statement." —Nicole Hogarty

**Maximalism, over-the-top decorating**

TRENDING: **14%** ↗ | **57%** → | **29%** ↘

**Books as a design element**

TRENDING: **0%** ↗ | **100%** → | **0%** ↘

**Matched and layered patterns**

TRENDING: **20%** ↗ | **80%** → | **0%** ↘

"If you can get the mix right, it's lovely and so rich and cozy." —Dean Sawyer

**Concrete tile**

TRENDING: **83%** ↗ | **0%** → | **17%** ↘

"It's about finding the right client, who will let it alone and love it as the tile ages and mellows." —Dean Sawyer

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## Furniture, Fabrics, and Rugs

### Botanical patterns: Stylized flowers

TRENDING: 25% ↗ | 50% → | 25% ↘

### Botanical patterns: Ferns and leaves

TRENDING: 0% ↗ | 75% → | 25% ↘

### Curved sofas

TRENDING: 25% ↗ | 75% → | 0% ↘

### Sectionals and modular sofas

TRENDING: 0% ↗ | 75% → | 25% ↘

"I don't believe sectionals will ever be 'in' or 'out' of style. There are so many options and flavors—it's just a matter of what works for the size and function of a particular room." —Brady-Anne Cushing

### Canopy beds

TRENDING: 20% ↗ | 40% → | 40% ↘

"Romantic, but not quite practical in 2019. There is more television watching in the bedroom these days, and a canopy bed interrupts the view." —Karen Gilman

### Geometric rug patterns

TRENDING: 60% ↗ | 40% → | 0% ↘

"From antique carpets to modern abstract rugs, the angular, geometric patterns are in far greater demand now than more curvilinear ones." —Jeffrey Arcari

### Indoor/outdoor fabrics

TRENDING: 86% ↗ | 14% → | 0% ↘

"This trend continues to grow as more companies refine and adapt their look to these new materials." —Dean Sawyer

### Bouclé fabrics, especially for upholstery

TRENDING: 60% ↗ | 40% → | 0% ↘

"Knoll has reintroduced some of their classic bouclés. They are soft and dressy at the same time." —Dean Sawyer

### Velvet upholstery

TRENDING: 25% ↗ | 50% → | 25% ↘

"A good way to get a luxe feeling. Mohair velvet is a personal favorite for seating; it's sumptuous and durable." —Dean Sawyer

### Biscuit-tufted upholstery

TRENDING: 25% ↗ | 75% → | 0% ↘

### Leather upholstery

TRENDING: 0% ↗ | 100% → | 0% ↘



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### Guilloché knobs and pulls

TRENDING: 50% ↗ | 50% → | 0% ↘

### Wooden curtain rods

TRENDING: 33% ↗ | 17% → | 50% ↘

### Midcentury style

TRENDING: 40% ↗ | 40% → | 20% ↘

## Lighting and Home Technology

### Geometric/linear LED chandeliers (triangles, hexagons, etc.)

TRENDING: 40% ↗ | 20% → | 40% ↘

### Ring chandeliers

TRENDING: 20% ↗ | 80% → | 0% ↘

### Grouped pendant lighting

TRENDING: 67% ↗ | 33% → | 0% ↘

### Art deco-inspired lighting

TRENDING: 60% ↗ | 33% → | 0% ↘

## Kitchens and Baths

### White kitchens

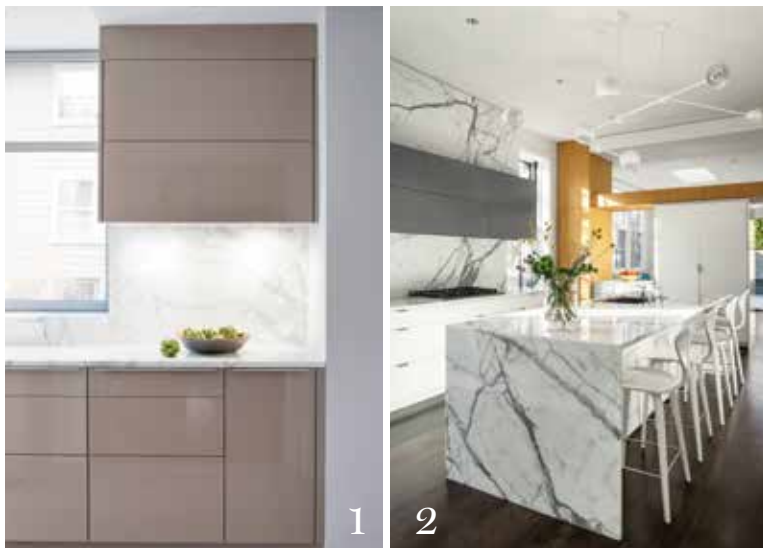
TRENDING: 50% ↗ | 50% → | 0% ↘

"I think white kitchens will never go away, and I'm fine with that! They can trend both modern and classic." —Carlotta Cubi Mandra

—Carlotta Cubi Mandra

"We're seeing a strong interest in white kitchens paired with wood accents." —Stephanie Horowitz

3. Grouped pendant lighting is going strong in New England. These Spun Thread pendants, by John Pomp, can be found at Studio 534.  
4. This Alexander Chair from Curated Kravet sports lush velvet upholstery.  
5. Recent rug introductions from Landry & Arcari include cheerful colors such as lavender and Millennial pink.



**1.** Mink—a gray-brown color with hints of purple—is making an appearance in more and more kitchens.  
**2.** Waterfall islands and full-height backsplash walls (these examples were designed by Stern McCafferty and crafted by Cumar) continue to enjoy favor in our region.  
**3.** Roomscapes’s Julie Lyons chose this striking La Cornue stove, with its vivid blue hue and mixed-metal trim, to enliven a client’s home.

### Mink-colored kitchens

TRENDING: **66%** ↗ | **17%** → | **17%** ↘

“Moody yet elegant.” —Nicole Hogarty

“Absolutely, and the stone accompaniments are endless, from grays and browns to mauve and white—everything goes.” —Carlotta Cubi Mandra

### Blue cabinets/islands

TRENDING: **63%** ↗ | **25%** → | **12%** ↘

“This trend went off like a rocket, and now it’s locked in.” —Dean Sawyer

“Blue offers a counterpoint to bright white, and can conjure up the nautical aesthetic that is so popular in New England.” —Julie Lyons

### Black plumbing finishes

TRENDING: **86%** ↗ | **14%** → | **0%** ↘

“Black stainless is the newest exciting finish.” —Julie Lyons

### Brass finishes

TRENDING: **57%** ↗ | **29%** → | **14%** ↘

“Brushed brass hardware continues to be desirable

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because of the warmth it brings to transitional or contemporary spaces.” —Julie Lyons

### Mixed metallics

TRENDING: **71%** ↗ | **29%** → | **0%** ↘

“An eclectic mélange of metals keeps the eye intrigued.” —Nicole Hogarty

### Kitchen appliances in brilliant colors

TRENDING: **45%** ↗ | **57%** → | **0%** ↘

### Open shelving

TRENDING: **43%** ↗ | **57%** → | **0%** ↘

### Waterfall stone countertops and islands

TRENDING: **62%** ↗ | **13%** → | **25%** ↘

“Definitely a big trend. We spend a lot of time ensuring that the veining is continued in the waterfall leg, creating a perfect continuation of the natural pattern in the stone.” —Carlotta Cubi Mandra

“An elegant way to add drama to a small space, or to anchor a large island.” —Julie Lyons

### Wood-clad range hoods

TRENDING: **40%** ↗ | **40%** → | **20%** ↘

### Freestanding statement bathtubs

TRENDING: **86%** ↗ | **14%** → | **0%** ↘

“Who doesn’t love an amazing tub? Soaking is a luxury . . . and incorporated into the home as such.” —Brady-Anne Cushing

### Pipe-style bathroom vanities: Metal

TRENDING: **43%** ↗ | **43%** → | **14%** ↘

### Pipe-style bathroom vanities: Acrylic or Lucite

TRENDING: **43%** ↗ | **43%** → | **14%** ↘

“Acrylic is a growing trend in a lot of designs we see—not just in the bathroom.” —Carlotta Cubi Mandra

### “Farmhouse chic” kitchens/bathrooms

TRENDING: **43%** ↗ | **43%** → | **14%** ↘

## Landscapes and Outdoor Living

### Outdoor fireplaces and fire pits

TRENDING: **78%** ↗ | **22%** → | **0%** ↘

“Fire features are a big ‘want.’ They extend the time people are able to use their yards by a month each

↗ = Growing  
 → = Holding steady  
 ↘ = Declining

year . . . which in New England is worth the investment.” —Colin Hand, a *Blade of Grass*

“Outdoor fireplaces are wonderful, but they are more successful for clients who have the time to build and maintain fires. Gas fire pits tend to be popular for urban and suburban projects because they can be turned on and off with the tap of a few buttons on your phone.” —Matthew Cunningham

### Adirondack chairs

TRENDING: 12% ↗ | 76% → | 12% ↘

“The big trend we’ve seen is that people are interested in easy-to-clean furniture, so we’ve sourced many of our chairs from Room & Board and Loll. These look just as good ten years later as they do on the first day.” —Matthew Cunningham

### Outdoor televisions

TRENDING: 37% ↗ | 37% → | 26% ↘

### Outdoor game areas: Oversized chessboards, ping-pong tables, etc.

TRENDING: 75% ↗ | 25% → | 0% ↘

“We see a growing interest in creating space for lawn games in general, but not overly prescriptive spaces. We’ll often plan for an open, level area that might be used for bocce, croquet, or parties and receptions.” —Stephanie Horowitz

### Reclaimed granite for steps and pavers

TRENDING: 86% ↗ | 14% → | 0% ↘

“This has become a standard for the majority of our gardens. It’s an excellent way to create a garden filled with history and meaning, and of course patina!” —Matthew Cunningham

### Ferns used as groundcovers

TRENDING: 25% ↗ | 75% → | 0% ↘

“Ferns are an excellent alternative to mown grass and other groundcovers. They are resilient in many differ-



ent growing conditions, have wonderful fall character, and they tend to hold up over the long haul—which helps maintain the original intent of the garden design.” —Matthew Cunningham

“Masses of similar plants are a popular look. Also, green-and-white gardens, with limited other colors: clean and classy.” —Colin Hand

### Creeping thyme planted between pavers

TRENDING: 67% ↗ | 33% → | 0% ↘

“Thyme is beautiful, it’s fragrant, and it tolerates a little foot traffic here and there. But it can be short-lived and needs regular weeding—which, given how busy most of our clients are, makes it not the most practical groundcover.” —Matthew Cunningham

### Succulents used indoors

TRENDING: 0% ↗ | 67% → | 33% ↘



4. Outdoor fireplaces, such as this striking specimen from a *Blade of Grass*, and other fire features remain greatly in demand.

5. Landscape architect Matthew Cunningham swears by the value of ferns and other native groundcovers.

## Special thanks to all the professionals who provided comments for this year’s style survey:

#### Jeffrey Arcari,

Landry & Arcari Rugs and Carpeting, Boston, Salem, and Framingham, Mass., landryandarcari.com

#### John Berenson,

John Berenson Interior Design, Boston, johnberenson.com

#### Carlotta Cubi Mandra,

Cumar, Everett, Mass., cumar.com

#### Matthew Cunningham,

Matthew Cunningham Landscape Design, Stoneham, Mass., matthew-cunningham.com

#### Brady-Anne Cushing,

Knickerbocker Group, Portland and Boothbay, Maine, knickerbockergroup.com

#### Karen Gilman,

Finelines, Peabody, Mass., finelines.com

#### Colin Hand,

a *Blade of Grass*, Wayland, Mass., abladeofgrass.com

#### Nicole Hogarty,

Nicole Hogarty Designs, Boston, nicolehogarty.com

#### Stephanie Horowitz,

ZeroEnergy Design, Boston, zeroenergy.com

#### Kate Jackson,

Kate Jackson Interior Design, Pawtucket, R.I., katejacksondesign.com

#### Julie Lyons,

Roomscapes Cabinetry & Design Center, Rockland, Mass., roomscapesinc.com

#### Andrew Reck,

Oak Hill Architects, Weston, Mass., oakhillarchitects.com

#### Dean Sawyer,

LDa Architecture & Interiors, Cambridge, Mass., lda-architects.com

#### Douglas Stevenson,

Kistler & Knapp Builders, Acton, Mass., kistlerandknapp.com