



WEB-EXCLUSIVE HOME TOUR

## Inside a 1920s Tudor Revival With a “Shaker Deco” Kitchen

Distinct historic styles come together in the home of two New York transplants

By Michelle Duncan  
Photography by Justin Jordan  
Styled by Kimberly Swedelius  
September 15, 2023



When a historian and an archivist decamped from their New York City roost to Louisville, Kentucky, during the pandemic with their new baby in tow, settling in a historic home was the goal. Their search for a suitable abode led to a gracious 1924 Tudor revival with great bones. Unfortunately, there had been a series of design decisions made between the 1980s and '90s that had obscured historic elements, blocked light, and obstructed the flow throughout the house. They needed help contemporizing the beautiful Tudor revival—making it livable for a couple with a newborn—while maintaining the home's original integrity. An introduction by a contractor led the new homeowners to [AD PRO Directory designer Bethany Adams](#), who proved to be an excellent fit.

“We were trying to make it a family home, and not have it be a museum,” Adams explains. With the original blueprints included in the purchase of the home, Adams went about creating congruence between the house's distinguishing characteristics and the comfortable, contemporary aesthetic the couple was going for.

Clunky '90s-style doors and windows at the back of the house were swapped for steel-frame [Crittall](#) replacements, a signature style of many 1920s residences that lets natural light through glass panes. Wood-frame Tudor-style doors and windows, along with their stained glass, were left untouched in order to retain period charm. Elsewhere, original flooring was refinished throughout the home, except in the kitchen and breakfast room, where dark cherry wood planks were replaced with Belgian terra-cotta star and cross tiles to create a period-appropriate aesthetic.

In the kitchen, Adams and the homeowners continued to let history dictate their design approach while balancing two distinct styles. “The term that we use, tongue-in-cheek, is Shaker Deco,” says one half of the couple. “[Shaker](#) because there's a strong legacy of wooden handicrafts in Kentucky that was largely informed by the Shakers, and [Deco](#) just because this house is an artifact of the 1920s.” The island, cabinets, and open shelving in the kitchen clearly reflect the clean lines of Shaker-style workmanship, and shiny brass knobs and fluted brass rods are just two elements infused with Art Deco flair.

Whimsical palette choices and playful furniture selections also make up a major portion of the home's decorative language. "I've always loved interesting color combinations," Adams says. "There's no bad color—it's just [about] finding the right one to make [another] color look amazing. I find that [to be] a fun exercise."

The dwelling's color story is strong, especially in areas like the dining room, where orange vintage [Finn Juhl](#) chairs contrast with green-toned wallpaper. The effect is lively and ebullient, with the fantastical [Moon Pendant Ensemble](#) by [Ludovic Clément D'armont](#) adding to the animation. Not far away, blue seating electrifies the formal living room, bright yellow enlivens a powder room, and a plum four-poster frame sits in a midnight blue primary bedroom. "That's my personal preference all the time," Adams says about color's starring role in the decor. "I'm not usually lucky enough to have clients who are willing to go there with me, but we just were very aligned in what we envisioned for this space."

The clients also couldn't be happier with their collaboration. "Living in New York, we were always fantasizing about a house that felt like it was a part of history," the couple says. "That's what attracted us to this specific place, and [it] informed the whole process. The result reflects that dream."



2/21  
A small corner in the entryway is the perfect place for a reading nook. Nook fabric by [Schumacher](#); brass sconce by [Lancelotti Reading Light](#).



2/21  
In the mudroom, a matte green color by [Farrow & Ball](#) coats custom millwork by [Bethany Adams Interiors](#).



3/21  
The home's Shaker Deco kitchen. Cabinets and island custom designed by [Bethany Adams Interiors](#); stove is from the [La CornuFé Series](#) by [La Cornue](#).



4/21

Belgian Star and Cross tiles by [Cie](#); Knoll 3D-printed Chubby Counter stools made from recycled fridge interiors, sourced from [Haute Living](#).



Art: Ryan Reynolds

6/21

Here, a breakfast room was created from a landing, which steps up from the family room and flows into the kitchen. The [Counterbalance Chandelier](#) by [Lawson-Fenning](#) hangs over a [Tolix G Table](#) sourced from [Design Public Group](#). Custom banquette clad in [luxx leather](#) is designed by [Bethany Adams Interiors](#); art by [Ken Aoyekar](#).



Art: © Ezaria Berard & Hilla Becher/Mia Becher & Spruth-Magers and Die Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur, Cologne

8/21

Sinuous cobalt blue vintage [Vladimir Kagan](#) lounge chairs and a deep ocean blue sofa from [Dmitry & Co](#) sit in conversation with each other in the formal living room. [Martin Table Lamp](#) sold by [Hay](#); rug by [Nanimarquina](#); vintage travertine coffee table; photographs by [Bernd and Hilla Becher](#).



5/21

To integrate an awkwardly positioned load-bearing column in the kitchen, Adams got clever and built a baking pantry. "We came up with that little baking quarter, which is kind of charming," Adams says. "We weren't just going to have a column sticking up in the middle of the kitchen. To be able to make that into something that looks intentional and is functional was a real challenge, but one that I enjoyed," she explains.



7/21

A view from the family room into the formal living room through an extant Tudor arch that offers a glimpse of the furniture and original stained glass windows beyond. [Draperies](#) by [Schumacher](#); [Multi-tier Gaita Pendant](#) sourced from [Cireh](#); side table in American Walnut by [Lawson-Fenning](#).



Art: Chris Boggs/Beck, Massoth NY

9/23

A vintage 1980s Wetman Kuched three-piece sectional with upholstery in charreusse by [Schumacher](#), a green velvet [Larson Fenêtre ottoman](#) with a brushed brass base, artwork by Chris Boggs, and a bright red [James Moulded Plywood Lounge Chair](#) already owned by the homeowners help tell the color story in the family room. Custom millwork on the bookshelf by Bethany Adams Interiors; Langham Picture Lights in natural brass by [Visual Comfort](#).



10/21

The new [Citrail](#) windows and door allow natural light to flood the family room. Here, again, Adams got imaginative when disguising load-bearing structures. The fireplace is 100% faux, built to hide a critical column that meets an intersecting beam.



11/21

"In design school, color theory was my favorite class," Adams says about her passion for dynamic hues. The [Moon Pendant Ensemble](#) by Ludovis, [Clementi D'Armani](#) swings from the ceiling of the festive dining room like a string of pearls. Wallpaper is [Les Mobilis](#) by [Nobilis](#); photograph by Bernd and Hilla Becher; velvet upholstery on chairs by [Schumacher](#).



12/21

A handsome concrete basin by [Nood Co](#) stands proudly in a powder room lit up by [Kelly Wearstler X Farrow & Ball's Citrona](#) color. [Schumacher's Taille de Femmes](#) wallpaper adds a playful element. Gilded sconce by [Samay](#); faucets by [Delta](#).



Art: Alex Schweder

13/21

[Sunnybrook Farm's](#) custom four-poster in [Bristol](#) by [Farrow & Ball](#) and the greenish-blue hue of the walls warm up the primary bedroom. [Arrange Studios'](#) table lamp and [The Socialite Family's Catalina bench](#) in yellow add punchy color to the room. An [Isamu Noguchi](#) ceiling lamp hangs above. Painting by Alex Schweder; area rug by [The Rug Company](#).



14/21

In the primary bathroom, multipatterned [Zachary Grand](#) floor tiles and clean-lined cabinets once again convey a Shaker Deco look. Faucet by [Brizo](#) Litze.



15/21

Adams custom-designed the vanity using walnut and Calacatta marble. The mirror is also custom-designed by Adams. A ribbed light fixture, sourced from [Chairish](#), hangs on the side.



16/21

Natural light pours into the primary bathroom. Fluted shower doors by [Bendheim Glass](#).



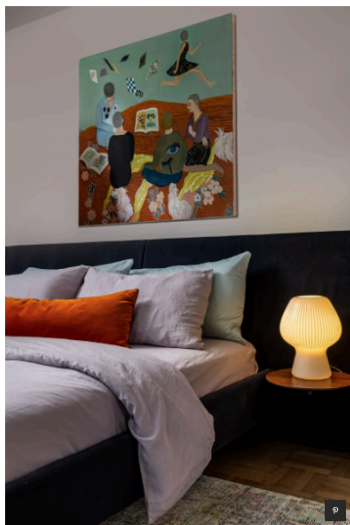
17/21

[Zellige Wall Tiles](#) in abstinthe and a gold-toned single-handle Brizo Litzze shower faucet create a cocooning effect in the primary shower stall.



18/21

In the toddler's room, Adams used a soft, creamy, pastel palette, interspersed by a variety of patterns for texture. The cane bed by [Crate & Kids](#) and the pink [Levi Lounge Chair](#) rest on an area rug by [Capel](#). Wallpaper by [Temple Studio](#); contemporary chandelier by [AGG](#).



19/21

The guest room and its mature bedding are set aglow thanks to a luminous bedside lamp.



20/21

"It was the homeowners who had the idea of putting the offices up there, and the contractor and I were like, 'Oh, no, that's gonna be a lot of work,'" Adams admits of the home-office built in the attic. "But we persevered. And I'm so glad we did. It's like being in a European apartment up there—it's so bright and light." The wife's office contains her existing [Eames lounge chair](#), an [Eames suit and management chair](#), [white shelving](#), and a custom-designed desk by Adams.



21/21

In the husband's office, the sharp angles of a Tudor gable form the room's roofline, while a large [balcony skylight](#) bathes the workers in natural light.