

# MOUNTAIN LIVING

HIGH-COUNTRY  
**STYLE  
GUIDE**

**68** OF THE BEST  
LOCAL SOURCES

FOR FURNITURE,  
LIGHTING, SINKS,  
TILE, HARDWARE,  
WALLPAPER,  
RUGS & MORE


**NEW YEAR,  
NEW LOOKS**

**6** FRESH DECORATING  
IDEAS TO WAKE UP  
YOUR ROOMS

Jan/Feb 2013





A photograph of a modern living room. The room features a large stone fireplace with a fire burning inside. The walls are a mix of stone and dark wood paneling. A wooden coffee table with a bowl of fruit and books sits in the center. A white sofa with a grey blanket and a leather chair with a matching ottoman are also visible. The ceiling is made of horizontal wood planks.

MILLION-DOLLAR VIEWS OF  
COLORADO'S VAIL VALLEY  
INSPIRE A DESIGN THAT CELEBRATES  
SIMPLICITY AND PURENESS OF FORM

# ZEN, MASTERED

STORY BY HILARY MASELL OSWALD

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KIMBERLY GAVIN AND TERI FOTHERINGHAM





ABOVE: A sculptural bench from Wexler Gallery in Philadelphia anchors the two-story atrium. The space leads to a library, an intimate room that balances the atrium's vastness. FACING PAGE: In the main living room, interior designer Robyn Scott combined textures to create a space that's both gorgeous and tranquil. Blackened brushed steel surrounds the fireplace, and slabs of lagon azul limestone in a honed finish top the steel mantel. Scott added a long floating hearth of Colorado buff sandstone, which provides extra seating when the homeowners host a party.





## IT'S EASY TO FALL IN LOVE WITH THE VAIL VALLEY.

It's tougher to find a slice of the valley that still feels untouched by the area's ever-expanding development. But a few lucky souls find a way to build their own havens in one of Colorado's most desirable spots. This home is just that kind of place.

Its owners had lived in the valley for a while, in a home along Gore Creek, where they loved everything but the sound of trucks braking on I-70. So they sought out a quieter spot and found it in the old homestead lot in Cattleman's Club, a stretch of land in a valley west of Edwards that used to be a working ranch. The 4-

acre lot has perfect views of the mountains—and not much else.

The owners gave architect Tom Cole, principal of Points West, clear instructions: They wanted (mostly) single-level living in a home that didn't feel too big for two people or too small for a crowd. Cole was tasked to trade the typical mountain design vernacular for an airier, contemporary look—and he had to make the most of those eye-catching views.

The architect's design delivers. The home's structural system is nearly invisible, with no big wood beams or chunky columns to >>





LEFT; Architect Tom Cole designed this glass bridge to connect the mudroom to the great room. The winding staircase makes an airy, sculptural statement. BELOW; Cole designed the glass, stone and steel exterior to be a contemporary riff on high-country architecture. The shed roof over the entry points boldly to a peak in the distance. FACING PAGE: Studio Como in Denver designed the kitchen's sleek configuration of cabinets by Italian manufacturer Poliform. The distinctive bar top is made of stacked planks of walnut.



KITCHEN AND EXTERIOR PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY GAWK; HALLWAY PHOTO BY TERI FOTNERINGHAM

ARCHITECTURE BY **POINTS WEST** INTERIOR DESIGN BY **ROBYN SCOTT INTERIORS**



“SIMPLICITY AND  
PURENESS OF  
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TOM COLE



support its left. Cole skipped the traditional gabled roof in favor of a shed roof that points perfectly to the majestic peaks behind the house. On the exterior, glass, stone and steel lend a handsome, contemporary feel.

Perhaps Cole's greatest feat, however, is the master suite, perched on one end of the house and connected to the living spaces by an enclosed glass bridge that spans a water feature. "The owners loved the idea that there could be a discrete master suite that's still connected to the rest of the house," he says. "It feels intimate and yet part of the whole."

Inside Cole's well-conceived shell, interior designer Robyn Scott honored the owners' wishes for a "Zen, organic, simple" space. The monochromatic palette, mainly warm browns and cool grays, gets a little spice from occasional pops of color. And Scott layered textures generously. For example, the master bedroom's fireplace shows off limestone in three different textures, a trick that adds interest without taking away from the room's >>

TOP: In the grand-but-cozy master bedroom, two airy woven chairs from Kenneth Cobonpue flank a beautiful custom-designed table from Spiro Lyon Glass in Carbondale, Colorado. "These chairs work in the space because although their shape is large, you can see through them to the views outside," Scott says. ABOVE, LEFT: At the foot of the master bed sits a C-shaped cabinet Scott designed to hide the TV, which pops up for viewing. FACING PAGE: Rustic meets refined: The sleek silver lamp and clean-lined nightstand play well with a rough wood sculpture.











glorious views. "Using the same materials in different applications or with varying textures creates that 'Zen' feel," the designer says.

Materials inside the home take their cues from the outdoors: Fir on the ceiling extends outside, creating chemistry between indoors and out. Interior stone walls refer to the exterior, and as often as possible, walls of glass open to terraces for a blast of fresh high-country air and unobstructed mountain panoramas.

Nothing quite compares to those views, but the jaw-dropping kitchen comes close. Denver's Studio Como designed the sleek oak Poliform cabinets; the wood has a striking grain, which the designers oriented horizontally. Concrete tiles cover the floor, and walnut planks top the bar.

The home's total effect is peaceful, removed from the valley's bustle but keenly connected to this part of Colorado. "It's full of light and views," Cole says. "It's a sanctuary on this gorgeous site."



TOP: Cole designed this bridge to connect the master suite to the home's living spaces. Notice the in-floor lighting, a recessed lens with an LED light to guide the way. ABOVE: The walls in the master bathroom are clad in limestone slabs. "It feels almost velvet-y, it's so rich," Scott says. The lighting underneath the floating Italian fixtures "gives the room an ethereal feel," she adds. FACING PAGE: In the master bathroom, a slab of onyx serves as a dramatic piece of art in the otherwise subtle, monochromatic space.



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