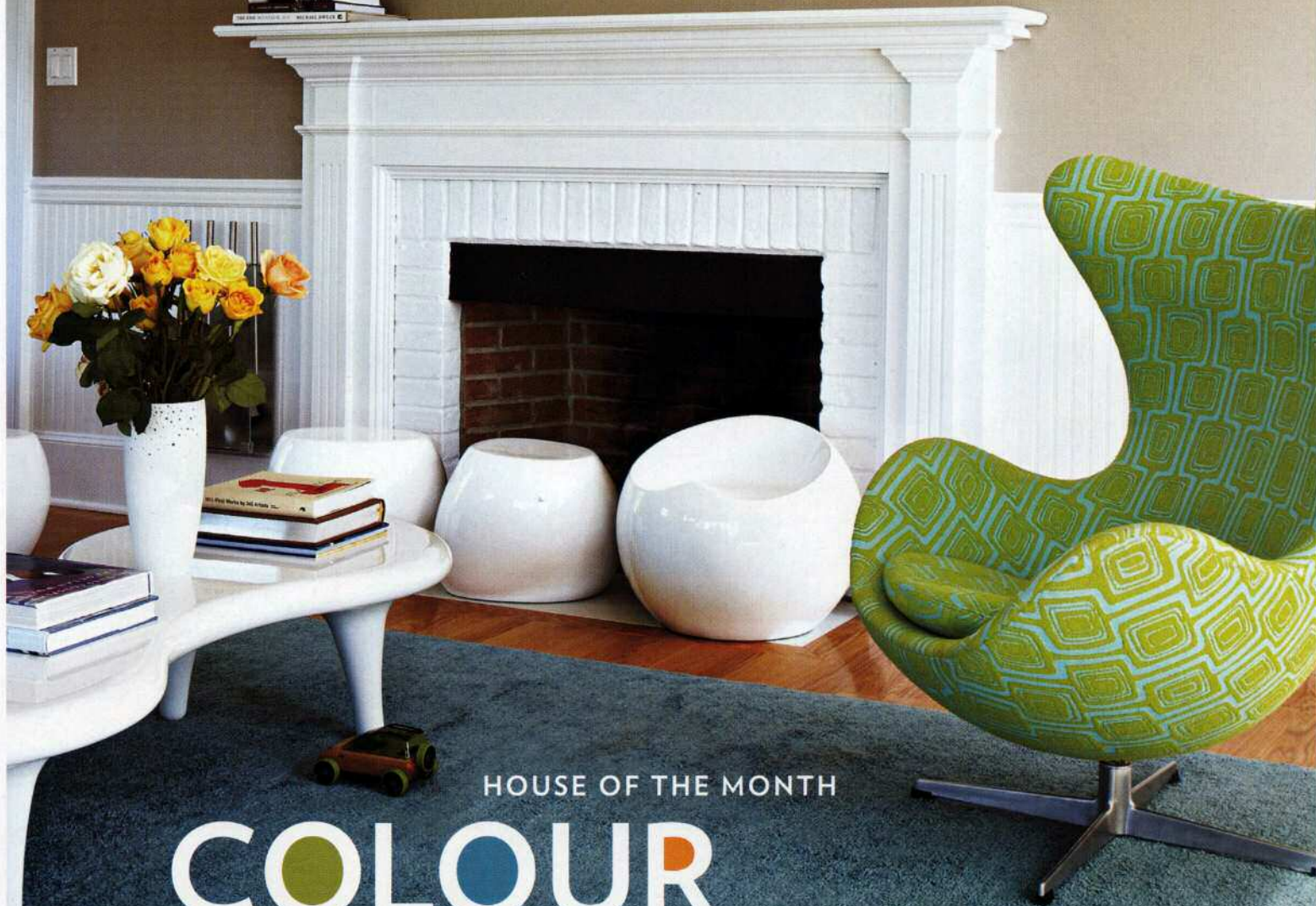


The relaxed vibe in the living space suits Paige's attitude to life – it's all about keeping things fun. The Orgone coffee table is by Marc Newson for Cappellini at Chaplins. An Egg chair from Fritz Hansen has been re-covered in Trezzini fabric from Designers Guild. Bubble stools from Heal's are like these. The photos are by Fiona Gardner. For this paint colour, try Harbour Grey by Zoffany. For modern sconces, see Porto Romano. The rug is from Ruckstuhl.



HOUSE OF THE MONTH

# COLOUR SUPPLEMENT

*Paige West's stylish family home shows that pop-art brights are smart as well as happy-go-lucky*

WORDS EMMA KILBEY | PHOTOGRAPHY HALLIE BURTON | STYLING ANNA LAST

## The property

**TYPE** A 12-year-old clapboard house on the beach.

**SPACE** Three storeys, with basement snug, kitchen, dining room, living room, seven bedrooms, five bathrooms and a pool.

**LOCATION** Montauk, Long Island, New York.



The brightly coloured hall gives a warm welcome to the constant flow of visiting friends. The goldfish photograph is by Dirk Westphal. The Holding Company stocks oversized wicker baskets. Get a yellow gym ball from Fitball Training. Gentle Sky No 102 matt emulsion by The Little Greene Paint Company is a good match to the walls.



The kitchen is the sunniest room in the house and, with windows on three sides, has the best vantage points, too. 'I didn't want the colours in the kitchen to take away from the view,' says Paige, so pale-blue walls - try Gentle Sky No 102 by The Little Greene Paint Company - blend with the expanse of sky outside. Find similar kitchen units at Harvey Jones. The table is from Maine Cottage Furniture; find one like it at Jennifer Newman. The Jenette chairs are by Edra at Chaplins. The Random pendant light is Bertjan Pot at Moooi; Nest sells them.

## 'THE ONLY TRULY PRECIOUS THINGS IN THE HOUSE ARE OUR KIDS,'

says New York art dealer and gallery owner Paige West of her colourful beach pad on America's east coast. 'Our priority was to make it an open house for visitors and child and wear-and-tear friendly!'

Paige, her husband JC, and their children, Charlie, three, and twins Fred and Jack, nine months, have lived in their Long Island home for three years. 'Montauk is one of the most laid-back places I've ever been: there's no pretension,' says Paige. **'It's classless here. People just want to be together as a family. I call it the anti-Hamptons.'** The couple had always been drawn to Montauk. JC's family owned a marina here, and 'when we got married we started coming out in the summer and renting', says Paige. 'Being here lowers my blood pressure instantly.'

So, what made Paige and JC plump for this particular property? 'It's on the highest point in a pretty flat area, with the marina forming an amazing backdrop. I also love the fact that it's "upside-down",' says Paige. The quirky three-floor layout means that the kitchen, living and dining rooms with one guest bedroom are on the top floor, with bedrooms and a pool level below, and a snug to chill out in down in the basement.

Fortunately, the house didn't need any structural work. 'We went to town on the aesthetics, though,' says Paige. When they first looked round, every wall was peach, with heavy curtains, rugs, oppressive dark wood and antique furniture. 'The house gets so much sunlight, it was begging to be opened up,' she says.

The first task was to rip out all the chintz, expose the floorboards and take everything back to basics. 'We painted every single inch of the house with emulsion from Benjamin Moore,' says Paige, who's the first to admit that she's obsessed with bright colours. 'Because we are by the sea, I wanted to play with bold shades. I warned JC that I was going

to really push the boat out and have lots of fun with colour.'

Indeed, every wall is a different hue. Undeterred by sceptical friends, who said clashing colours would never work, Paige joined forces with a designer friend, Ghislaine Viñas, to achieve exactly the right balance. 'She was fantastic at bringing my ideas to life and pushing me a little as well,' says Paige. 'The purple bedroom, which I was unsure about, is now my favourite thanks to her.' And she can't keep her once-dubious friends away - every weekend they have people to stay. **'I wanted each bedroom to have a unique feel and experience - like a really cool boutique hotel,' says Paige.**

The couple's other aim - that no child could destroy anything in the house - didn't limit creativity, though. 'It looks like a normal living room, but we whitewashed the chairs and then added vinyl fabric, so you can walk in and sit down straight from the pool,' Paige says.

Inspiration for the décor came from other sources, too. 'I'm drawn to bright, modern art, and the design for some rooms was driven by this,' says Paige. Her favourite artists include Leah Tinari - 'She paints from old photos, which fits with the memories we're creating here,' - and Dirk Westphal, whose photo of the goldfish in the hall chimes perfectly with the house's sunny mood.

In terms of her aesthetic, Paige confesses she's something of a maximalist. 'I collect art, wine glasses... children! Every piece has a story that helps to make this our happy place - it's a truly contented home.' To see Paige's gallery collection, go to [mixedgreens.com](http://mixedgreens.com). Her book, *The Art of Buying Art*, is published by HarperCollins. Find out more about Ghislaine Viñas Interior Design at [gvinteriors.com](http://gvinteriors.com). >

### VISIT OUR WEBSITE

For more detailed shots of Paige's colour-filled home, plus lots of other inspiring properties, visit [livingetc.com/houses](http://livingetc.com/houses).



Fun, unexpected touches, such as this mermaid lamp from 1stdibs.com, can be found throughout the house. Paige customised it herself with an inexpensive white shade and fringing.

RIGHT Paige knew how she wanted to decorate the dining room before they'd even bought the house. 'I knew the exact paint colour I wanted to use (Hot Paprika 3TM, 26YR 14/548 by Dulux is similar), that I wanted a white dining table, and that a coral chandelier would hang over it,' she says. Chaplins sells similar dining tables. Vintage chairs were painted and reupholstered; Gio Ponti's Montina chair at Twentytwentyone is similar. The chandelier is from Moth Design in LA. Stolenspace Gallery sells bold modern artwork. BELOW The surf-themed snug was designed with the future in mind. 'This room will be ideal when the kids are teenagers, but even now they love watching movies here,' says Paige. The banquette sofa is two double futons pushed together, but a joiner could build similar. The cushions are from West Elm. The chairs are by Brion Experimental. 55 Max sells photo-printed wallpaper.

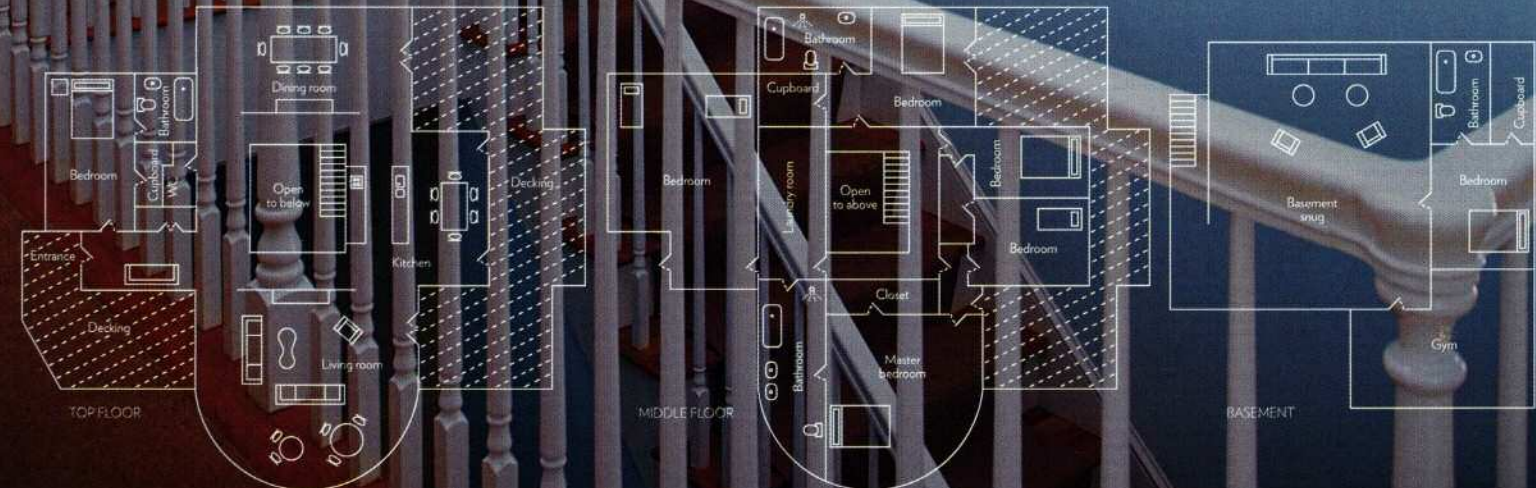


What they did

- Repainted throughout (using paints from American brand Benjamin Moore).
- Exposed floorboards.
- Laid new carpets.
- Replaced kitchen cabinet doors, and installed new worktops and appliances.
- Transformed the basement into a surf-themed hang-out.



A cool, calm aquatic theme, inspired by JC's love of surfing and the home's close proximity to the sea, runs throughout the space. On the open staircase and landing, a white, twiggy chandelier is a striking centrepiece. The antique chandelier was found at Donna Parker Habitat. The pool photo is by Anthony Goicolea, and the painting of the girl underwater is by Leah Tinari. Allposters.co.uk sells similar modern artwork. >





Paige's aim to create a boutique-hotel feel is realised in the green bedroom, where modern chinoiserie and a wallpapered ceiling make a strong statement. The lacquered headboard is from West Elm; the Mandarin bed from Orchid Furniture is like it. The bedside table/shelving unit was designed by Ghislaine Viñas Interior Design, but a wall-mounted Ptolomeo book shelf from The Conran Shop would achieve this effect. London Taxidermy stocks stuffed birds. Try The Little Greene Paint Company's Brilliant Green Shade emulsion for a colour like this.

**Some truths**

**Which book is on your bedside table?** An electronic one – I've convinced myself that I'm saving a few trees this way. I'm reading David Sedaris' *When You Are Engulfed in Flames*, among others.  
**What makes Montauk great?** It's always at least 10 degrees cooler than Manhattan, and we all seem to smile more when we're here.  
**What's your favourite season?** Winter. My family is Danish so I think my body just feels more at home in the cold.  
**Your secret indulgences are...** needlepoint, a whiskey sour at sunset, and Ben & Jerry's Imagine Whirled Peace ice cream.  
**What are your design turn-offs?** Anything beige. Oh, and those large gold-framed family portraits hanging above a sofa. >



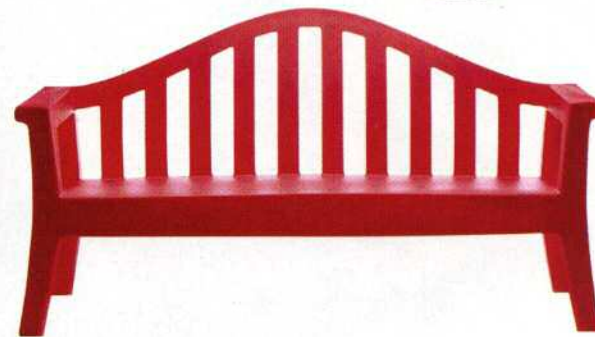
ABOVE Paige took a little persuading about the purple bedroom, but now the pop-art style room is her favourite in the house. Dulux's Pamplona Purple 1, 73RB 08/259 emulsion will create the same effect. Sheer Home sells headboards like this. The art above the bed is by Mark Mulroney. Find a similar red lamp at Design House Stockholm. The Conran Shop sells cushions like these. RIGHT On the top floor, the hot-pink bathroom has a vibrant, girly style. Rave J23 emulsion by Leyland Paints is a lookalike colour. The cupcake artwork is by Alessandra Exposito. The shell chandelier is from Anthropologie. Find similar pieces at Not On The High Street.

For stockist details, see page 181





CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE  
Purnukka print **cushion cover**, £38,  
Marrimekko. Cord **lamp** mini, £120.50,  
Design House Stockholm. Giulietta  
**bench**, £462, The Conran Shop.



**OK CORAL**  
Paige has used vibrant colour as a background to highlight furniture with strong silhouettes. To create a dining room in a similar style, keep furniture and accessories in one colour and contrast with a bright shade on the walls. Chaplins sells glossy, modern pieces.

## IDEAS TO STEAL from Paige's house



**PAPER TRAIL**  
In this bedroom, Paige used wallpaper on the ceiling to add an unusual twist. When contrasted with the bright walls, a patterned paper draws the eye upwards, making the room feel more spacious. For wallpaper like this, try Graham & Brown. The Little Greene Paint Company's Brilliant Green, £21.60 for 2.5l, is similar to the walls.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP  
Mandarin **bed**, £1,900,  
Orchid Furniture. Summer  
lacquer **vase**, £30, John  
Lewis. Strib **rug**, £95, Ikea.

For stockist details, see page 181



Dorcas, Jennifer Harlan, Photomontage, H. Iltis, Rietveld, Dineen, Dineen, Dineen