







"Make your home personal and not themed. It's important to bring a little bit of where you're from to the mountains."

- interior designer Kath Costanti

1. MASTER THE MIX Crystal, leather, wood, glass, gold leaf, faux bois. It sounds like a lot for one room to handle, but "contrast," says interior designer Kath Costanti, "was a key concept for this home." This dining room showcases the designer's skillful juxtaposition of rugged and contemporary styles: the clean lines of a coffered ceiling over a native stone floor; the pear-drop crystals of Ochre's "Drizzle" chandelier illuminating red leather chairs by Hickory Chair; and glam gold-leafed, faux bois armchairs by Ironies upholstered in a brilliant peacock-blue fabric. Architecture by Locati Architects, locatiarchitects.com. Interior design by Harker Design, harkerdesign.com. JANUARY 2009

2. EDIT YOURSELF For a space that's at once subtle and sophisticated, don't overdo the details. Here, interior designer Donna Guerra and colleague Katherine Taylor started with a subdued palette of colors and finishes: rich walnut floors, a modern mahogany trestle table and a golden jacquard Jim Thompson upholstery fabric. Next, "we had the homeowners' classic X-back chairs refinished with a dark ebony stain for an updated look," Guerra says. To add a more stately presence in the tall room, she added two A. Rudin high-back captain chairs. A simple bronze-and-glass Hammerton chandelier seems to float in midair, while one well-chosen accessory, a pair of silver branch candlesticks from Roost, shines in its spotlight. Architecture by Galambos Architects, galambosarchitects.net. Interior design by DG&A Interiors, daainteriors.com. NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009

3. THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX For San Francisco-based interior designer Charles de Lisle, creating a design for this rustic retreat presented an exciting opportunity: "I had never done a house in the mountains before," he says, "so I took it as a chance to come up with a fresh approach to that language." The resulting spaces, like this dining room, offer "a sense of adventure and discovery." Here, de Lisle alludes to the notion that every mountain home needs an antler chandelier with a showstopping Venetian glass take on the old classic. The contrast of heavy wood and stone with delicate glass is unexpected—and simply breathtaking. Architecture by Pearson Design Group, pearsondesigngroup.com. Interior design by The Charles de Lisle Workshop, cdlworkshop.com. SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

4. MAKE SMALL SEEM SPACIOUS To add depth and a sense of spaciousness to tight quarters like this dining room, architect Brett Nave suggests combining medium to dark floors with bright walls and subtle ceilings. Here, Nave and architect Lori Ryker chose variegated fir planks—with a natural patina from years of use as pickle vats—for the floors and ceilings. For more impact, they placed artwork unusually high to defy expectations, chose light fixtures that add dimension to the cavernous ceilings, and gave the modern seating ensemble a pop of lime green. Architecture by studio.bna, studio-bna.com and studioryker, studioryker.com. OCTOBER 2008

GREAT IDEA Don't be afraid to mix up the seating at your dining table. Three of the dining rooms pictured here illustrate one technique: Choose a different chair to take the place of honor at the head of the table—and let it stand out a bit with a dramatic shape or grander scale. To unite a disparate grouping of chairs, upholster each one in the same fabric. Or, to amplify the contrast, choose a different fabric to introduce a fresh new hue.

MIX OLD WITH NEW To add warmth to a space that was formerly a meat cooler, interior designer Susie Hoffmann played with texture and a mix of soothing hues. The century-old building's original wooden walls were left untouched and are accented by Osborne & Little metallic floral wallpaper and sleek, metal Noguchi lamps. A simple bed from Room & Board and cleanlined dresser enhance the room's Asian sensibility. Architecture by High Plains Architects, highplainsarchitects.com. Interior design by Envi Design, envidesign.com. MARCH/APRIL 2010

GREAT IDEA For an instant dose of color and pattern, just add wallpaper. If a strong pattern strikes your fancy, choose a soft colorway to make it more livable for the bedroom. And if you use a pattern on the walls, keep everything else in the room simple and straightforward. Here, the designer did just that, bringing just a bit of pattern down onto the bed to tie everything together.





CREATE CONTRAST What makes this bathroom so inviting? "It's the texture of the basketweave tile that just lures you in," says interior designer Donna Guerra. "You want to go in and see it up close." The key to making the tile pop is keeping everything else smooth and clean. Guerra, along with architect John Galambos, played up the contrast here by adding a chocolate-stained rift oak bath surround, Crema Marfil marble countertops, and limestone-encased floors and walls to the mix. Architecture by Galambos Architects, galambosarchitects.net. Interior Design by DG&A Interiors, dgainteriors.com. NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009

