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From House to Home

BARBARA MULLEN, OWNER OF ASPEN'S CAROLINE-EDWARDS INTERIOR DESIGN, TURNED THIS MODERN DWELLING INTO THE OWNER'S DREAM HOME.

The owners of this West End Aspen home loved the modern architecture but preferred a softer interior—one with a mix of traditional furniture and fabrics. I was hired to furnish the entire house and add a bar in the lower living area. I love to mix different furniture styles and shapes, so working with a modern structure with beautiful materials was inspiring. Before the renovation, the home dictated a sleek, modern interior design. Now, the owners feel like they can put their feet up and relax in this comfortable space.



BEFORE

THE SPACE: The main level of the 4,000-square-foot house has an open floor plan, which includes a living room, a dining room, a family room and a kitchen.

THE GOAL: Soften the modern feel of the house by introducing traditional furniture and fabrics with a mix of custom organic pieces.

HIGHLIGHTS: Great open windows to allow natural light to fill the space from all directions; beautiful wood floors provide a warm palette to work with.

CHALLENGES: The open bookshelves—there were so many of them!

AFTER

THE FEEL: Comfortable, creative and colorful. **SOURCES:** Chaise lounge with vintage cashmere fabric and nailhead trim from **Dana John** (danajohn.com) in Los Angeles; JJ Custom lounge chairs and Bergamo fabric, both from **John Brooks Inc.** in Denver (johnbrooksinc.com); rugs sourced locally from **Isberian Rug Company** (isberianrugs.com).

FAVORITE PIECES: The **Hudson** coffee table made of claro walnut, which added an organic mountain feel without being too literal, and the **Henry Beguelin** ceramic bowls on the dining table (henrybeguelin.com).



TOP 5

Barbara's tips on softening a modern space

1. Don't skimp on fabrics. Choose rich fabrics with great textures and introduce a pattern as an accent.
2. Look for older rugs with a traditional pattern that have unique colors—Turkish Oushaks are my favorite.
3. Choose a few exceptional accessories instead of just trying to fill in a space with accessories that have no meaning.
4. Don't be afraid to play with color.
5. Be true to the architecture by using some pieces with clean lines, but mix in different shapes. The round dining table was a great change for this space.