

HOME



A New Chapter

When they lost their house (and nearly everything in it) to a fire, this Bedford couple tapped designer Jody Fierz to start from scratch and reimagine their dream home.

BY JENN ANDRLIK \ PHOTOGRAPHS BY TIM WILLIAMS

It's tragic to lose a beloved family home for any reason, of course—but in this case, the cause was an accidental chimney fire in 2021, when contractors and construction materials were scarce due to Covid. It soon became clear that rebuilding in a reasonable amount of time was impossible. Plan B? Buy a new house and hire designer Jody Fierz of Jody Fierz Interior Design in Ridgefield, CT, to help style an energetic, sophisticated space that matches the homeowners' empty-nest lifestyle and vibe.

"My goal was to help them create new memories, while also being sensitive to the loss of their previous home and the generations of memories it held," says Fierz. "We embraced the few items that were saved and incorporated them into the new design."

The prior home was decorated in a traditional European style, with mahogany and maple furniture and accessories collected during the couple's travels to Italy, Spain, and France. This house—and the need to purchase all new furnishings—presented the opportunity to embrace a brand new look. The couple—he's an orthopedic surgeon and she's







in the music industry—has an eclectic style, says Fierz. “She’s a classical pianist who works with top rock and rap artists. They both love to entertain. I wanted the home to be visually stunning, but also authentically reflect [their] unique spirit.” Fierz zeroed in on what she calls a “sexy and moody” design for the classic brick Georgian colonial.

A Design Transformation

In their previous home, the couple had a formal living room that saw very little actual usage. So they decided to turn the new home’s living room into something different—namely a cozy, richly colored cocktail lounge. The fun and functional space was something the husband had always dreamed of. Fierz intentionally designed the bar to be the focal point, with artfully displayed spirits, integrated coolers, and a stunning backlit onyx wall. Amber-toned Hammerton light fixtures illuminate the space, and a custom billiards table anchors the opposite side of the room. “We took a plain white room and transformed it,” says the homeowner. “It’s become the ‘after dinner drink





The designer chose to use a lot of green hues throughout the home not only because the clients like the color, but also because the shade symbolizes healing.

space' for all our friends."

The deep, saturated tones in the cocktail lounge continue into the wife's office/music room. For that space, Fierz selected a deep brown, textured wallcovering from Innovations to envelope the walls and ceiling, creating a seamless, cocoon-like effect. She reimagined the fireplace surround with deep green tiles from Artistic Tile, laid in a contemporary pattern. The custom office furnishings include a sleek desk and velvet swivel chairs which complement the grand piano. "I spend so much time in there and love that I can easily play the piano during breaks in my workday," says the homeowner.

This luxe look is echoed in the powder room, where Fierz installed a stunning gold leaf wall covering from Phillip Jeffries that shimmers with an antique patina. "The variations of the gold tones catch the light beautifully, creating a dynamic backdrop," she says. To complete the dreamy space, she chose a Paonazzo marble custom vanity from La Pietra with shades of brown and gold veining, topped by a large, round mirror with a tactile metal frame by Uttermost.

For the foyer, family room, dining room, and kitchen, the designer took a different approach, leaning into a lighter, brighter color palette. "I wanted [these] rooms to be open and airy," Fierz says. That explains her deliberate divergence from the home's more dramatic spaces.

Fierz chose a warm, neutral palette for the family room. The plush, cream sectional and coffee table, both from Kolkka, were custom made, and the fireplace was refaced with Panda Marble-La Pietra in shades of white, gray, and brown to create a powerful focal point. She kept the room's existing cabinetry and



shelves to showcase books and collectibles. The soothing dining room features soft, textured off-white wallpaper from Phillip Jeffries, along with a light-toned table and cream-colored chairs.

The home's dark and light hues come together in the kitchen. While the main work space is primarily white (the home's original white cabinetry and island), Fierz added a pop of color with emerald green velvet bar stools. For the eating area she chose a round dining table with a rich wood top and sleek, dark pedestal base, pairing it with elegant, curvy

dining chairs upholstered in a green patterned fabric that complements the kitchen stools. Overhead, the contemporary chandelier's glass orbs, suspended from a brass canopy, offer extra glamour and a warm glow.

Upstairs in the primary suite, Fierz designed a peaceful sanctuary, starting with subtly textured, pale champagne wallpaper that shimmers with the light from a showy, modern chandelier. The soft, elegant theme—what the designer describes as a "warm, inviting embrace"—extends to the bed's upholstered headboard, the curvy chaise, and the custom

bedding, all in a variety of complementary neutrals.

Although this new, newly decorated home stands in stark contrast to the cherished house where they raised their family, this couple is thrilled with the result and are ready for their next chapter.

THE TEAM

Jody Fierz, Designer
Anna Molvik, Stylist
Angela Jobe, Earth Mama Design, Landscape Designer
Mosolino Development LLC, General Contractor for Bar Room
Everaldo Jay Defreitas, E Freitas Construction, Inc., Cabinet Maker for Bar Room

