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let the sun shine in

A beachfront condo gets a light-filled makeover

WRITTEN BY BERNADETTE BACZYNSKI PHOTOGRAPHS BY GRIDLEY & GRAVES

CHECK SIGHT LINES

The big iron lantern (robertalendesign.com) doesn't impede the ocean view.

THINK UP

Install molding that is sized appropriately for the room's height and that complements the cabinets' style.

HOLD EVERYTHING

Custom cabinets store barware on this side of the dining room and electronics on the other.

KEEP IT EASY

Travertine tiles look elegant, feel cool underfoot and are easy-care, making them perfect for beachside homes.



IN THE DARK

The dining area felt dim and cramped, and the kitchen was enclosed in the interior, with no natural light or views.

The Honstein family wanted a place in the sun to escape cold New Jersey winters.

Jeaninne and her husband, Robert, found an ideal spot in Vero Beach, Florida, where they and their adult children could gather and relax with friends. Only problem: The condo's layout didn't take advantage of the stunning ocean views outside the living room window. To turn the interior spaces around, the Honsteins brought in Vero Beach architectural designer Scott Layne and architect David Moulton (moultonlayne.com), and New York interior designer John Bardsley (johnbardsley.com) to renovate and restyle their waterfront home. Now, instead of a warren of closed-in rooms and wasted space, the home is an open, sun-filled gem with a spectacular view of the ocean from wherever they sit.



SETTLE IN

Kitchen seating isn't all about islands and stools. A great view just begs for a window seat, where the cook can relax and guests can cozy in for a chat.



CREATE LOOKALIKES

The range hood is covered in a custom surround that reflects the custom Wood-Mode cabinets (woodmode.com).

COVER UP

A Sub-Zero counter-depth refrigerator (subzero-wolf.com) is surfaced to match the kitchen's Wood-Mode Brookhaven cabinets.

CHANGE SURFACES

Dark-stained walnut planks are from Howell Hardwood Flooring's American Classics collection (howellflooring.com).

USE COOL HUES

The tile backsplash in Icelandic blue (akdo.com) matches the wall paint in Tidewater (about \$45; sherwin-williams.com).

RECYCLE FINE WOOD

The island countertop is reclaimed chestnut crafted by John Forest of Forest Forms, Vero Beach, FL; 771-567-4310.

HIDE THE STORAGE

Built beneath a custom-designed window seat, flip-top bins are perfect for seldom-used small appliances.



EXPAND THE VIEW
An arched alcove was built into the windowless third wall in the sunroom to hold the sofa. A custom mirror designed to look like a paneled window reflects the ocean view.



ADD BURSTS OF COLOR
Open to the dining area, the living room has two views of the ocean. The custom draperies (Summer Hill's Maravilla linen in Marigold; summerhill.com) provide an appealing contrast with blue.



DOUBLE UP
The office is easily converted into a guest room for one or two. Fold-out Murphy beds are housed in custom cabinets by Michael LaCorte (lacortes.com).



before
The kitchen and dining room were located in the interior, ignoring the view.



after
Moving the kitchen and the main hall improved the flow of the house.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVE STANKIEWICZ