



ELLE

BEACHSIDE LIVING





Located in the exclusive waterways of Naples Island in Southern California, this once-dated 1980s Cape Cod home has been transformed by Jennifer Austin into a vibrant coastal haven.

TEXT **MARIA AZIZ NAHAS**. DESIGN **JENNIFER AUSTIN**
PHOTOS **AMBIENT LIGHT** AND **LAUREN TAYLOR**.

À table

The kitchen and dining corner seamlessly blend form and function, featuring custom two-tone cabinetry, paneled fretwork, and colorful appliances. The curved banquette transforms this space from a cozy breakfast nook to an elegant dining area, perfect for intimate dinners with a view of the Naples Island waterways.



Owned by a recently retired fertility doctor and his wife, a health and wellness coach, the property now reflects their lively personalities and love for entertaining. While their grown children have moved on, this couple dreamed of a space that would bring them daily joy and serve as a gathering spot for friends and family.

The original structure, defined by dark woods and thick moldings, didn't match the coastal energy of Naples Island's scenic vistas. With a goal to create a lighter, more welcoming space that embraced beachside aesthetics, the design team introduced mid-century and quirky accents to infuse warmth and style. Reworking the dated 1980s interiors posed unique challenges, particularly in squaring off the triangular rooms created by the pie-shaped lot. Enlarging the windows maximized ocean views, flooding the home

with light and airiness. Standout features include a breathtaking primary bathroom, adorned with mid-century tiles, a terrazzo-clad shower, and a teak feature wall behind a luxurious soaking tub. The centerpiece of the living room is a revamped two-story fireplace, featuring geometric ceramic tiles and a terrazzo bench, a perfect spot to gather on crisp California nights. Meanwhile, the kitchen, with its custom color appliances and fretwork cabinetry, seamlessly transitions from a casual breakfast nook to an elegant evening dining space.

Upon completion, the owners were overjoyed with the final result – a bright cheerful home with a California coastal vibe and bold, personalized details. The house has since become a conversation piece in the neighborhood, with visitors charmed by its striking, uplifting design.

