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BARN CHIC

words by ALISON GWINN • photography by AUDREY HALL

A NEW GUEST HOUSE NEAR JACKSON, WYOMING, LOOKS LIKE AN OLD BARN ON THE OUTSIDE—BUT INSIDE, IT'S CONTEMPORARY AND CLEAN.

YOU GOTTA LOVE A BARN. DESPITE THEIR HUMBLE HERITAGE, THERE'S SOMETHING UNDENIABLY ELEGANT AND EVEN ROMANTIC ABOUT BARNS. IS IT THE GAMBREL ROOFS? THE NATURALLY WEATHERED SIDING? THE LOFTY CEILINGS (CLEARLY IN VOGUE FOR COWS LONG BEFORE THEY WERE FOR PEOPLE)?

Whatever the attraction, the architectural barn style was the look that the homeowners of this property outside Jackson, Wyoming, were after when they decided to add a guesthouse to their 15-acre property on Tucker Ranch. "I just love barns," says the homeowner. "Whenever my husband and I drive by one, we comment on it—and a barn felt much more interesting and original than a regular guest house."

The couple's architect and friend, John Carney of Carney Logan Burke Architects in Jackson,

equivocated—for a minute. "I remember they handed me photos of real barns. I suggested maybe we didn't want to settle on a form so quickly, but in this case it really was them saying, 'No, this is what we want.'"

But because the barn shape "is very classic and traditional," Carney says, "we knew we wanted to add an element of surprise in the design." That surprise took the form of a huge second-story gridded glass wall, which looks due north to the Tetons and the



Jackson Hole Mountain Resort and has two lower hopper windows that open up to provide fresh air. “The whole thing is proportioned to look like a loft hay-loading space, as if it were big double doors you brought hay into,” says Carney.

The 2,400-square-foot new-build, finished this past summer, actually serves three purposes: besides needing a guest house for the family’s many visitors, the homeowners wanted a dedicated workout area for her (“I exercise outside whenever I can, but I needed something with views to use in bad weather,” she says.) and, for him, an expansive first-floor garage with a ceramic checkerboard tile floor (it houses his impressive collection of vintage vehicles, including a bright-red 1949 Ford pickup truck and an old VW van that looks as if it could have once seen action at the Woodstock festival).

The new barn is situated 30 to 40 feet up the driveway from

the main house, a log home that the couple, who split their time between Bel Air, California, and Jackson, has owned for more than 20 years.

“The main house has so many memories and history with our kids,” says the homeowner. “They have spent every single Christmas of their lives there, and they love it, which makes me so happy. One of our daughters, when she turned 18, even suggested that she and I get matching tattoos of the Jackson Hole bucking horse. But with the guest house, we wanted something more contemporary.”

The building pays homage to 19th-century working barns: the exterior and interior walls, in fact, are built of old barnwood (from Montana Reclaimed Lumber), two-foot-square punched windows on the first floor mimic traditional barn windows, and the interior has a pitched ceiling supported by knee braces interspersed between trusses, a design that is both striking to look at and necessary



ABOVE (top to bottom): “This space has complete privacy, because it just looks out over the ranch pond and up to the Tetons,” says the homeowner. “It has that wonderful full-on, stand-at-the-edge-of-it view.”; The homeowners wanted an unobtrusive look to the kitchenette, which includes a mini-fridge and small cooktop, perfect for making a cup of coffee or having a snack. The second-story wide-plank floors are made of reclaimed Douglas fir.



to support the cedar shake roof during Wyoming's heavy winter snows.

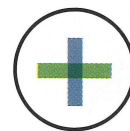
But the architects—as well as the project foreman, Jeff Thomas of Benchmark Builders, who did all of the doors and windows, as well as the finish work in the house—worked diligently to bring the interior into the 21st century, with a sleek, subtle kitchenette clad in the same reclaimed barnwood as the exterior (“We like to have a unifying palette of materials,” says Carney.) and ultra-modern fixtures in the second-floor guest

bathroom, including a sink and bathtub by Waterworks, as well as lighting throughout by Hubbardton Forge.

The homeowners also worked with Rush Jenkins, owner of WRJ Design in Jackson, who had helped them update their California house and the main house in Wyoming, on interior design. He added furnishings that were both modern, like an understated but ultra-cool canopy bed by Poltrona Frau, and personal, like a Rose Tarlow table set in the kitchen area that is



ABOVE (left to right): The Ralph Lauren daybed in the bedroom is draped with a faux fur—“You just want to sink into it,” say the homeowner. Many of the custom pillows are covered in Loro Piana fabrics. The window looks toward the Snake River to the east and woods to the south. “I think it’s cozy and welcoming and private,” she adds. The bath includes a sink and tub by Waterworks



engraved with fish (the husband is an avid fly fisherman) and a side table from the Keno Brothers in the bedroom that is made out of a steering wheel.

The result is both clever and comfortable. "You know what I love about this house?" says the homeowner. "When you drive into

the driveway, you think, what a beautiful, rustic barn, and you expect everything inside to be cozy and a little old-fashioned. But then you walk in and think 'Wow! Everything inside is clean and modern, with these killer floor-to-ceiling mountain views.' It's contemporary and fresh." **BA**



ABOVE (clockwise from top left): A walnut canopy bed with a velvet headboard and leather detailing from Poltrona Frau is "designed to look like it's floating off the floor," says interior designer Rush Jenkins. "We wanted a bed that was really, really interesting and contemporary and unique."; The ground-floor garage houses the husband's collection of vintage cars (including this 1966 Volkswagen Westfalia camper and 1949 Ford F1 truck) as well as vintage Italian and French road bicycles. The space, which is illuminated by vintage shop lights, includes a powder room (behind the barn doors) plus a checkerboard tile floor, a last-minute idea of the homeowner meant to evoke racing flags.

CLEAN & CLASSIC

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