

BERGEN

health & life



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Our holiday
gift guide

NJ'S TOM COLICCHIO:
The making of a *Top Chef*

where to find

- lamp shades aplenty
- top-tier tannenbaums
- doo-wop delight



health watch

- 'Peek at my plate': a dietitian's food diary
- 6 exercise myths, busted



◀ LIVING ROOM

A color palette of cream and pale blue sets a tranquil tone in a living room designed for relaxing—no televisions allowed! The Paparo-designed slabs of honed limestone around the fireplace mirror the room's crown molding. Contemporary furnishings—a duo of curvilinear sofas from J. Robert Scott, a Frank Lloyd Wright–design rug and a slender Makassar ebony table—modernize the space.

BREAKFAST ROOM ▶

Views of the grounds were a main consideration in designing the breakfast room. Low-sitting couches from Donghia upholstered in a soft mohair fabric were placed for conversation and capturing the vista. The golden yellow on the walls provides a quiet backdrop, allowing the greenery to shine and highlighting a collection of watercolor paintings. ■

For resources used in the Creston House, see our Shopping Guide on page 64.



▼ PLAYROOM

Because the grandkids' playroom is centrally located next to the kitchen, Paparo wanted to give it a grownup feel. To do so, she upholstered tyke-sized ottomans in washable leather and used fun—but not juvenile—fabrics on the couch and chair. A synthetic resin table with rounded edges is perfect for puzzles and blocks. Both a playfully patterned silk-and-wool rug and a chandelier of abstract glass add whimsy.



frequently faces the challenge of marrying two divergent aesthetics. Her solution here? Highlight the structure's architectural elements while filling it with contemporary furnishings.

"The home's crown moldings, base moldings and details are traditionally based," she explains. "But the materials and finishes reflect the clients' modern taste." Take a peek to see how the two styles happily coexist.

◀ **ENTRY FOYER** The foyer exemplifies the designer's desire to bring the outside aesthetic in. "The exterior of the building is predominantly a red/burgundy brick," she notes. The polished red mahogany granite floor echoes that outdoor hue, while "the wood railings are stained to match the front door." Paparo took on the project while the home was still under construction, giving her the freedom to design interior elements as needed. The extra-wide staircase, for instance, visually expands the width of this room, which is twice as long as it is wide. Diagonally angled tile achieves the same effect, while a trio of oversize vases adds modern flair.

▼ **DINING ROOM**

"The biggest table you can find"—that was the direction Paparo received for the homeowners' dining room. Custom was the best solution, so she designed a crotched mahogany piece that stretches 11 feet in length without its self-storing leaves, which add another 4 feet. "It's bigger than my living room!" the designer quips. An Italian cobalt glass chandelier makes a statement, but hangs close to the ceiling to avoid interfering with conversation.

continued





TRADITIONAL with a twist

THIS CRESSKILL
HOME HAS A
SEDATE EXTERIOR.
INSIDE, IT GETS
A LITTLE WILD

by Debbie Bolla

Your neighborhood is traditional, and you want your home to fit in. But your own tastes run to modern. What do you do? A 13,000-square-foot new-construction home in Cresskill embodies one eloquent answer. Outside, it's in sync with its neighbors. But indoors, clean lines and funky furnishings rule the roomy roost. The homeowners—the president of Rockleigh-based Crestron Electronics and his wife—wanted their built-from-scratch manse to have classic curb appeal but still reflect their modern sensibilities. As principal of an eponymous Manhattan-based firm, interior designer Diane Paparo