



HOME TOUR: A DESIGNER BEACH PAD THAT TOYS WITH TRADITION

Designer Gideon Mendelson's elegant getaway is full of welcoming details and playful twists on traditionalism.

THE DOSSIER: **NAME:** Gideon Mendelson **TRADE:** Interior designer and principal of Mendelson Group. **VIBE:** Traditional with a beachy, eclectic twist. **ABODE:** Five-bedroom, traditional shingle-style home in Sagaponack, NY.

When New York-based interior designer Gideon Mendelson and his partner Tom purchased their beach house in quiet Hamptons hamlet Sagaponack, NY, it was a milestone: the designer's first piece of real estate. "I didn't feel a need for permanence until I had children," he says. The five-bedroom, traditional shingle-style house became the perfect escape from Brooklyn for his three children, as well as "an opportunity to show of my collection of things," he says.

de-specking

Mendelson's home had been built as a spec home — a residence built without a particular buyer in mind — so one of his biggest challenges was to make it feel more personal, as if it had been designed for him. "The red oak floors were a challenge because the pink tends to come through," he says, so the designer applied a floor stain

with a hint of olive-green, a hue that continues in pops of chartreuse throughout the house.



Oval Boi Chandelier, Price Upon Request, **David Weeks Studio**



Map Wall Decal, \$129, **Pottery Barn**



Promenade Caned Armchair, Price Upon Request, **Lorin Marsh**

unordinary people

Another way the designer “de-specked” the house was by designing custom furniture. Overall, “there’s a sophisticated, cohesive environment with a few very unlikely characters.” The unusual cast Mendelson refers to are bespoke pieces with his signature “nod to traditionalism.” In the library, he designed a bookcase that “plays on the old English libraries where they used to hang art on the verticals,” he says, with little niches framed like paintings. In the sky-blue living room, the designer upholstered a custom settee with two separate pieces of brown and chartreuse linen, creating the illusion of a stripe. “I love marrying unexpected things,” he says.



Longacre Small Table Lamp, \$336, **Circa Lighting**



“Bamboo” #2107, From \$225, **Farrow & Ball**



Border Frame Duvet and Shams, From \$68, **Serena & Lily**

surprise. surprise

Whether it’s a custom piece or a unique antique, Mendelson has a true knack for creating an element of surprise. “Everyone expects a big convex mirror over the mantel, but mine has an odd kind of Tim Burton effect,” he says proudly of his spindly round branched **Hervé Van Der Straeten** mirror. His eye for the unusual led him to the Pebble Table, a multi-tiered, re-configurable cocktail table by Lebanese designer Nada Debs. “I’ve always loved it. It’s going to become an icon,” he says.



Eton Club Chair, From \$749,
Ballard Designs

Gwenwood Wall Sconce, Price
Upon Request, **Urban Electric**

Large Silver Decorative Horse,
\$150, **Chairish**

creature comforts

Cool and welcoming, the house feels just as a beach getaway should. "My friends come and feel really comfortable. Every room gets used, and it's a place everybody wants to come." What more could you ask for?



Herve Van Der Straeten
"Branches" Mirror, Price Upon
Request, **1st Dibs**



The Pebble Table by Nada
Debs, Price Upon Request, **1st
Dibs**



Steam Press Wheel, \$99,
Restoration Hardware

THE *real* DEAL

Living Room Sofas
Mendelson Group

Kitchen Pendant Lights
Ann-Morris Antiques

Stairwell Runner
Patterson, Flynn & Martin

Outdoor Woven Stools
Mecox

Office Ceiling Treatment
Silvere Boureau

Family Room Club Chairs
Roman Thomas

Children's Room Wallpaper
"Havana" #2502W-0
Carleton V

Office Wallpaper
"Florence" 209/04
Romo

Master Bedroom Bed
Mendelson Group

What's your favorite room in Mendelson's house? Tell us in the comments or by tweeting to us @domainehome.

Photographs: **Eric Piasecki**

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TAGS: **COASTAL × HAMPTONS × HOME TOUR × TRADITIONAL**