Better Homes & Gardens®

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO
COLOR™

Tour 13 homes full of inspiration

MAKE HOME YOUR HAPPY PLACE

+
Build a Palette
Neutral, bright, or moody

Add Oomph
Tips for paint, pattern, fabric & art
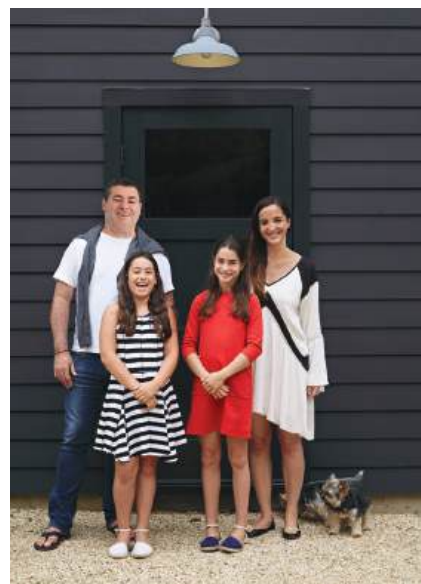
Get the Look
Paint Color Matches Inside

2024

KITCHEN
Glass panels divide the kitchen eating area from the living room but allow light to flow between the spaces.

LIVING ROOM
Each room's neutral shell—concrete floors beneath black, gray, and white walls—could lean industrial if it weren't for the warmth of hand-woven kilims, graphic artwork, colorful upholstery, and carefully arranged mementos. Here, a large blue sectional shines next to oversize lamps and a massive wooden mold repurposed as a coffee table.

THE PROJECT
Architect and designer Mark Zeff; his wife, Kristen; and their daughters, *above*, live in Blackbarn—a house on Long Island that Zeff crafted with unexpected combinations of furniture and decor to reflect his family's tastes.

THE PALETTE
On the outside of the one-story "barn," inky cedar siding is both elegant and utilitarian; inside, charcoal-painted pine walls, one per room, punctuate the open floor plan and deliver the atmosphere of a city loft with a serene feel. Art and textiles sprinkle in just-right doses of greens, blues, and pinks.

Paint It
Black

Architect and designer Mark Zeff's *love of dark tones* brings tranquility to his New York modern farmhouse.

by LINDA O'KEEFFE   *photos* MAX KIM-BEE   *styling* OLGA NAIMAN

Black Jack
2133-20
Benjamin Moore

PRIMARY BEDROOM
One of Mark's tricks for adding intimacy and reducing the scale of his barnlike home is to paint one wall in each room charcoal. It also offers a great calming effect. "White is often associated with serenity, but I find it to be noisy," he says.

FOYER
Oars and water skis arranged like sculpture play off the palette of a vintage Moroccan rug that pops against concrete floors and immediately softens the room.