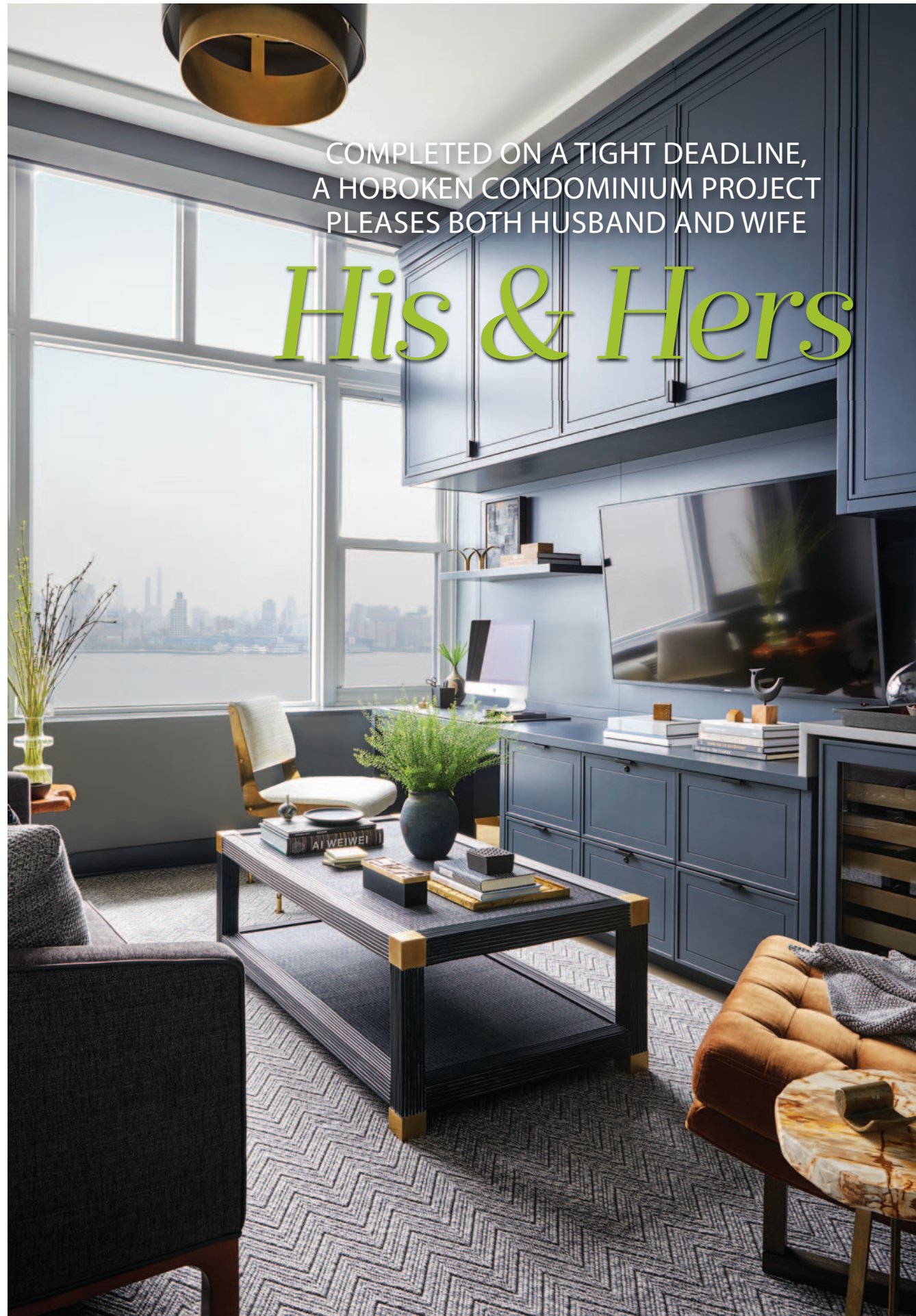




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COMPLETED ON A TIGHT DEADLINE,
A HOBOKEN CONDOMINIUM PROJECT
PLEASES BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE

His & Hers

J oan Enger faced several challenges when she designed a Hoboken condominium for a young family, not least of which was its relatively small size. The 1,700-square-foot space needed to accommodate the varied requirements of the couple and their two children. Fortunately, the designer was brought into the project during its earliest stages. “We were hired alongside the architect months before demolition would begin — the ideal scenario,” she says.

The early involvement allowed Enger, owner of Hoboken-based J. Patryce Design, to work closely with the homeowners throughout the construction and design process. The space had good bones, a fact that helped inform the new layout. “The 17-foot industrial ceilings were incredible to work with,” Enger notes, “and enabled us to centrally locate the kitchen by running the water and power underneath the raised children’s wing, thereby creating a unique split-level design.”

In the children’s wing, the clients requested separate bedrooms and bathrooms for each child.

The moody blue den is stylish and sophisticated. Built-in cabinetry provides efficient storage in the narrow space. One of the homeowners’ “must haves” was wine storage. A wine fridge tucked neatly into a wall of cabinetry at right fills the bill.



“At first,” Enger says, “I thought this would result in spaces that were too tight and cut up.” However, after reallocating square footage, “we were able to make this work perfectly. Although the bathrooms are compact, they don’t feel cramped due to the 9-foot ceiling height, floating vanities and fully tiled walls.”

The teamwork between the homeowners and the design professionals continued with the rest of the space. “We were able to collaborate on the floor plan and kitchen design, as well as the abundance of custom mill-work throughout. Through thoughtful planning, we were able to incorporate the majority of wish-list items into a relatively compact space.”

Though the process was thoughtful and careful, it was not slowly paced.

“The timeline was probably our biggest challenge,” Enger says. “The owners originally wanted the entire project done by Christmas (we started demolition in August). Although we did not finish by Christmas, they were able to move in by March — about six months in total for a full gut renovation — not bad!”

Once the construction portion of the project was complete, Enger worked with her clients to determine the kind of atmosphere they wanted in their home. That involved creating a tangible representation of their preferences. She describes her process: “We begin every project with visual mood boards. This enables us to ‘speak’ with our clients visually, which we find most effective.” Enger gets the creative juices flowing by assembling

The open plan kitchen/dining area/living room is ideal for entertaining.

In the kitchen, Enger used the generous vertical space to increase storage. A “library ladder” (left foreground) enables easy access.

A carpet creates a visual separation between the living room and the dining/kitchen area. Throw pillows add a bit of flair to the subdued space.





PURPLE BEDROOM | Deep purple walls add drama against the primarily white furnishings in a daughter's room. Contemporary furniture and artwork are sophisticated touches.

BLUE BEDROOM | Built-ins over the bed provide ample room for books and treasured knickknacks in another child's room. A variety of textures, patterns and colors comes together in this cheerful space.

BATHROOM | A "floating" vanity tucked into a corner helps this small bathroom appear larger.



information from a variety of sources. “We refer to our library of design books, online sources (Pinterest, Instagram) as well as some of our ‘go-to’ vendors for inspiration at the onset of each project.”

Still, human nature intervened to present a minor complication. “The husband and wife had different visions of what they wanted,” Enger notes. “She was drawn to a more monochromatic look and he yearned for color. We did our best to listen closely and provide concepts that appealed to both.”

The result is a living space that is composed and tranquil, with enough color to keep it interesting. In the kitchen, unembellished cabinetry creates

an airy feel, while a quartzite waterfall countertop on the island adds a bit of heft. Industrial pendants and stainless steel touches bring edginess to the soft surroundings. Enger used the generous vertical height to create more storage and included a “library ladder” for accessibility.

The living room is awash in subtle grays and white, but, Enger says, she made sure to acknowledge the husband’s request for color. “The citron George Spencer velvet pillows in the living room were all for him!” The den, done in a “moody blue with dramatic artwork,” also was created with the husband in mind.

The kids’ rooms are based on a foundation of bold color — one in a vivid blue with a pink carpet and artwork in a variety of brilliant hues, the other a study in violet with citrus-y accents. But even these colorful spaces have a soothing simplicity the wife can appreciate. Unfussy furniture and unadorned cabinetry maintain the equilibrium against the bright walls. “The space has panoramic views of New York City,” Enger notes, “so it was important to keep the interior serene and let the stunning backdrop be the focus of attention.”

Simplicity and color were just what this busy couple were after; but they

also wanted their home to exude hospitality and warmth. “The husband is an amateur chef and food/wine connoisseur,” Enger says. “They continually travel for food and wine inspiration and test recipes on their friends. The open floor plan and large island and dining table allow them to host a generous number of family and friends. This was very important to them as we planned for these areas.” The clients’ input was key to the success of the project. “They were extremely decisive, had a great aesthetic and appreciated the details immensely. The timeline was tight, but we made it happen.” **DW**

SOURCES Overall: design, Joan Enger of J. Patryce Design in Hoboken; architect, Jensen C. Vasil Architect, PC, in Hoboken; millwork, NR Wood Design Corp. in Brooklyn. **Den:** wall color, “Steel Wool” by Benjamin Moore; “Chipley” sofa in slate colorway, Stark Carpet in New York City; “Nora” sofa, Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams in Paramus; custom throw pillows, “Matchstick” from Claremont Furnishing Fabrics Co. in New York City and “Orino” from Sferra Linens in Edison; “Gregory” coffee table, Palecek Furniture; large oil painting over sofa, Mane Sakic in Jersey City; “Griffin” lounge chair, Lawson-Fenning in Los Angeles; desk chair, Bungalow 5 in Saddle Brook upholstered with velvet from George Spencer Designs through Claremont Furnishings Fabrics Co. **Living Room:** wall color, “Nimbus” by Benjamin Moore; wool and silk carpet, ABC Carpet & Home in New York City; “Trousdale” sofa, Lawson-Fenning with fabric from Elizabeth Dow through Holland & Sherry; vintage Milo Baughman chairs upholstered in “Nature Song/Tusk” fabric from Holly Hunt in New York City; custom throw pillows fabric, George Spencer Designs through Claremont Furnishings Fabrics Co.; “Jacques” coffee table, Julian Chichester in High Point, North Carolina; round marble and bronze side table, 1stdibs. **Kitchen:** wall color, “Nimbus” by Benjamin Moore; “Hailey” pendant lights, Rejuvenation in Portland, Oregon; appliances, Sub-Zero and Wolf; sink, Kohler Co.; stool at counter, Blu Dot in New York City; dining area table, Robert James Collection in Chula Vista, California. **Master Bathroom:** wall covering, Holland & Sherry; knurled nickel cabinet hardware, Alexander Marchant in Austin, Texas; “Sutton” sconces, Restoration Hardware; faucets and lav sets, Watermark Designs in Brooklyn, New York. **Purple Bedroom:** wall color, “Pinot Grigio Grape” by Benjamin Moore; custom window treatment fabric, “Bars – Plum” by Holly Hunt; “Jared” light fixture, Arteriors Home in Carrollton, Texas; desk chair, Overstock.com; desk chair seat fabric, Designers Guild in New York City; bedding, Serena & Lily in Summit; “Tongue” lounge chair, Wayfair; side table, West Elm; art, Tappan in Los Angeles, Society6 and Etsy. **Kids’ Bathroom:** “Savoy” penny tile, Ann Sacks; vanity, Lada Corp.; faucet and lav set, Crosswater London (formerly Ammara Designs) in Milford, Massachusetts; porcelain floor tile, Marble America Corp. in New Rochelle, New York. **Blue Bedroom:** wall color, “Poolside” by Benjamin Moore; ceiling light fixture, Hive Modern in Portland, Oregon; sconces over bed, School House Electric in Portland, Oregon; bedding, Serena & Lily; throw pillows, ABC Carpet & Home; desk/play table, custom white melamine top with base from Land of Nod; desk chairs, Design Within Reach; custom window treatment fabric, “Suvi” from Romo Inc.



A double sink, six-drawer vanity provides the husband and wife with abundant storage in the master bathroom.

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