

SAVE YOUR GREEN: DON'T MISS THESE EARTH-FRIENDLY DEVELOPMENTS

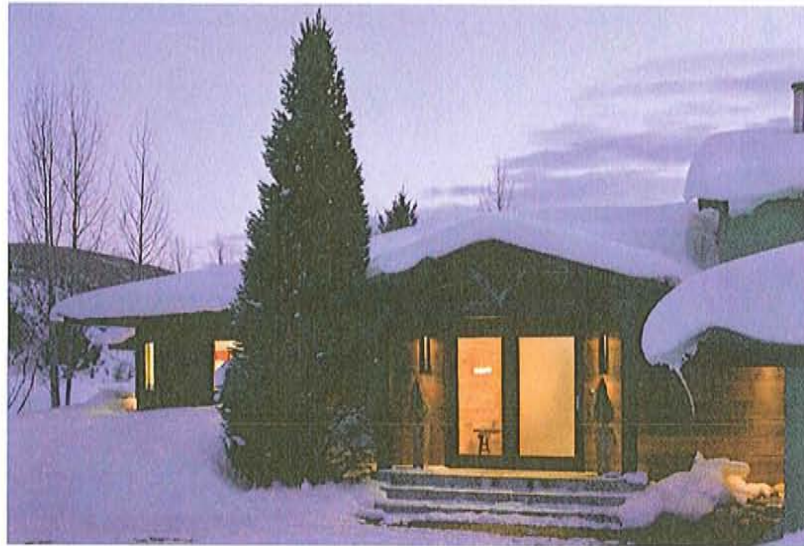
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A Home of Our Own

Vail architect Kyle Webb tells *CH&L* how he and his wife created an Asian-influenced home within the footprint of a 20-year-old house.



CH&L: Let's start by talking about how the design evolved.

Kyle Webb (architect and homeowner): My wife Allison and I reused and repurposed every component of the house that we could, except the dry-wall, and remodeled within the home's structure. We started by gravitating towards finishes in the original home that we liked—the oak and cork floors, as well as glass marble tiles. We covered select feature walls with antique wood siding and created accents from recycled wooden beams. The living area comprised four different rooms, which we opened up, so that our spaces work freely together. The materials, colors and palettes blend together but are different. Our storage solutions were carefully thought out—everything is built-in. The whole house has an Asian feel, and we created a Zen garden in the backyard using the home's original river rock stone veneer.

By **NICOLA GRUN**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY **KIMBERLY GAVIN**



The walls, clad in recycled siding from Boulder-based Singing Saw, are among the home's most distinctive features. The wooden bench was made in Montana and was a wedding gift to the homeowners.

The garden is gorgeous. What was the inspiration?

We got engaged in front of a Zen garden in Kyoto, Japan, and were recently married in our own backyard.

I assume you knew you wanted an eco-friendly project.

Yes. For the last 15 years, I have been really obsessed with green principles. They have only recently become more popular and socially acceptable. And they're so seamless, people are often not even aware that they have been implemented.

Walk us through a few of the emerging green technologies and products you decided to bring home.

We used cellulose insulation, which is denser and a better insulator than most. Alno manufactured the kitchen cabinets with a new technology using less toxic chemicals. Our floors are manufactured from renewable sources of cork, and the engineered wood floors are thinner and use less wood. Everything in the green industry is rapidly evolving, which makes green design exciting.

How do you find the cost of green technologies compares to their savings?

They cost 5 to 10 percent more than most standard materials, but the payoff is immediate. We already consume 40 percent less energy.

Timber accents and contrasting floors pair beautifully with the living room's simple furnishings.

Stairs between the oak floor from Arrigoni Woods and the marble floor from Decorative

Materials accentuate the contrast. With just the right amount of color, rugs and pillows from Shaver-Ramsey complete the look.







The custom-built dining table was a team effort. Gallegos Corporation supplied the Esmeralda Green Quartzite tabletop and Metal Designs fabricated its steel bases. The accompanying Bertola dining chairs are from Design Within Reach. Another of Kyle and Allison's art selections, the green rectangles on the far wall, are a replica of "Storefronts" by Christo, and the tabletop art and Asian decorative discs are from HW Home.







(left) The Alno cabinets, supplied by Exquisite Kitchen Design in Denver, are made with fewer toxic chemicals than traditional kitchen cabinets. The Bottega stools are from Design Within Reach, and the hanging red light is from Lightology.

(above) The owners wanted space to showcase their art collection, which includes these stunning red rectangles—Bettina Werner originals, created from salt.

What's your favorite area in the home?

It has to be the master bathroom, which opens to the garden. We chose multicolored, recycled glass tiles for the shower. They were cast using a rustic method that incorporated the kiln's ash and waste, making each tile unique.

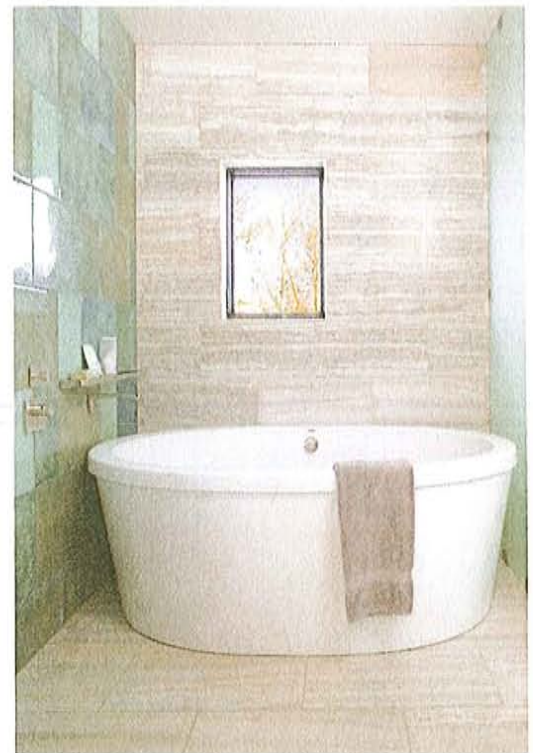
Tell me about the living and dining rooms. They're obviously the home's hub.

Definitely. The wall near the kitchen contains plumbing and heating lines and could not be moved, so we transformed it into a focal point to showcase our art collection, parts of which we inherited from Allison's family. We believe in collecting what we like, especially from artists of our generation. Three pieces of art hang on the wall. Allison found the round jade *bi* when she was studying in China. There is also a print by Sarah Sze, an installation artist, and three red pieces by Bettina Werner, which are made of salt, her favorite medium.

For the dining room, we wanted a big table to be a visual focal point, something that worked well in various scenarios. We love to entertain. Our table design was inspired by a



(above, left) Owner and architect Kyle Webb says the master bathroom is his favorite space. The marble floor and hand-poured glass tiles give the space a contemporary, artistic vibe. (above, right) The oval tub and accompanying Dornbracht fixtures were found at Denver's Ultra Design Center.



Sol LeWitt piece from the series "Incomplete Open Cubes." My wife is really fond of that series. It includes sculptures of variations of cubes, which explains why the table bases are incomplete cubes of steel. The tabletop is two different slabs of granite laminated together. It's phenomenal—one of the best features of the house.

The metal fireplace is also an interesting feature.

It's a wood-burning fireplace. The technology came from Denmark. It's clean-burning—ideal for green building and much more eco-friendly than traditional fireplaces.

What did you learn through this process that you will pass on to your clients?

Being hands-on through all phases of this entire process—from design, demolition, purchasing, installing, to finishing the punch list—I have a new appreciation for the whole effort and how important it is to put together a great team for the whole project. It was a lot of work, but the payoff—it's totally worth it. □



The master bedroom features siding-clad walls and walnut floors from Arrigoni Woods. The light above the lounge is "Cloud" by Frank Gehry—an artistic touch among the room's linear elements.

DESIGN DETAILS

Architect:

KYLE H. WEBB,
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 khwebb.com

Builder:

NEDBO CONSTRUCTION
 (970) 845-1001
 nedbo.com

Interior Design:

KYLE H. WEBB & ALLISON KRAUSEN
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For information about the products in this home, visit ColoradoHomesMag.com

AT A GLANCE

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Modern contemporary

TOTAL SQUARE FEET: 3,300

LENGTH OF THE REMODEL: Six months, excluding demolition

DESIGN CHALLENGE: Owners Kyle Webb and Allison Krausen wanted to reuse as much of the original home as possible while changing the interior space to be more comfortable and open. Sounds simple. But reusing the home's materials limited their color choices, and preserving the home's structural elements limited their design options.

DESIGN SOLUTION: Webb, an architect, found new ways to use the structural features that could not be removed. By reusing materials in interesting ways and opting for a neutral palette, the owners created a design that fulfills their initial vision. To introduce color, the couple drew upon a careful selection of art from the family's collection.