



# Homes and Hearths

## Fiery Features Create Cozy Ambiance

WORDS KRISTEN POPE | IMAGES ??? AND DAVID BOWERS

Warm and inviting, primal and intimate, fire has a special place in many cold-climate homes. And it creates an important dynamic within many Jackson Hole homes, especially in the winter. A fireplace provides places for people to cozy up with a book, warm up after a day playing in the powder, or simply provides a spot for extended family to gather.

Being able to share the winter season with family in an inspired space was a key part of the design at one of Carney Logan Burke's projects, the Phillips Ridge property. The home can sleep 18 and contains many fire-inspired features. "The owner is really family oriented and embraces the outdoors in Jackson," architect Andy Ankeny said. "He wanted the house to be a centerpoint for his extended family."

A massive 22-foot-tall stone fireplace serves as a centerpiece for the home's main living area. Made from one enormous stone, the fireplace lintel belies a cool, natural edge, with a slight arch. The base is made from three behemoth pieces of stone, with two cornerstones and a middle piece that spans in between.

The moss rock used in the fireplace was difficult to source, as the owners wanted a stone seven feet wide with moss on three sides. A Bozeman stone supplier found some stones that fit the bill, and the architects and owners visited the stone yard several times over the course of a year, searching for the perfect stone. The enormous stone they found, weighing hundreds of pounds, had to be hoisted into place with a mechanical block and tackle. Antique, reclaimed firebrick creates the dark interior element inside the fireplace.



A firepit lies behind the home, serving as a prime gathering spot. The owners wanted a gas firepit, instead of wood, since they knew it would be in frequent use every winter. Built with the architecture of the house in mind, the firepit is centered with the home as a backdrop. Using an organic, moss-rocked boulder aesthetic, the firepit also provides outdoor seating.

Playful elements are another key part of the home, including a fire pole and even secret passageways. "It's almost like a motto for the house," Ankeny said. "The owner wanted the house to have a little bit of folly and not be so serious."

The fire pole, located inside the home's lookout tower, is accessed by a secret gate. Over the Christmas holiday last year, the owner's extended family conquered their fear of heights over several days, working up the courage slide down the pole. The home contains five hidden circulation points, including hidden ladders and doors, as well as a hidden staircase that rises from the billiards room into the closet of an upstairs bedroom. Additionally, a wood and steel bridge connects the main lodge to the guest wing and lookout tower, adding an Old West lodge feel.



Fireplaces aren't the only home elements that can incorporate flames. The Shoshone residence in Wilson was a design project for a family that loves to cook, eat, and entertain together. They incorporated an interior pizza oven into their space.

"It became a focal point for the main living pavilion," said architect Eric Logan, from Carney Logan Burke Architects. Wrapped in patinaed black steel with a shimmery quality, it anchors the kitchen aesthetic. The oven is an Italian appliance, with the enclosure constructed around it. There are drawers and storage spaces below—with integrated shelving and wood storage—to help shape the space. Not just for pizza, the family also uses the oven for meats and vegetables as part of their regular cooking routine.



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— Interior designer Nanette Mattei

macy of a fire. "We use fireplaces 10–12 months out of the year," she said. "A lit fire is one of the most welcoming elements of a home."

When Mattei was recently hired to renovate a full master bedroom suite for Spring Creek homeowners, she set out to create a tranquil bedroom that blended modern conveniences and included multi-textured textiles, custom furniture, and architectural elements that updated the space.

Mattei's first objective was to create a new, sloped plank ceiling with LED lighting and a custom-lit ledge. She worked with architect Bob Gordon on the project. "This update created a sense of bal-

ance between the sleeping area and the fireplace sitting room," Mattei said. "My clients wanted the ease of turning on a gas fireplace to sit and enjoy their favorite pastime of reading. The new ceiling draws your eyes toward the grand windows that look out to expansive valley views." One slab of natural marble is used on the fireplace, which echoes the clean lines of the ceiling.

With the fireplace now serving as the centerpiece of the suite, Mattei's interior decorating goal was then to enhance the couple's request for natural furniture elements and warm tones. She ripped out the wall-to-wall carpet and added hardwood floors with a deep, rich brown finish. Next, Mattei painted walls with a similar earth tone and added hand-embroidered fabric for the window treatments.

"My clients and I love to support local craftsmen and had custom dressers and a console designed and built," she explained. The finishing touches on the space included blending classic tufted reading chairs with contemporary silk carpets. "We had a great time designing this room," Mattei said. "Now, when my clients arrive in the valley, they can easily pick up on the life they cherish in Jackson." ■

Interior designer Nanette Mattei believes that one of the biggest challenges she faces when designing a furniture layout in Jackson is how her clients can enjoy both the outside views and the inside inti-

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