

MODERN LUXURY

# Interiors

BOSTON

*BEST OF*  
**LUXURY  
DESIGN**

THE ULTIMATE INSIDE GUIDE

**ONCE  
UPON A  
DREAM**  
MIDCENTURY  
DESIGNS  
COMBINE  
WITH MODERN  
TOUCHES IN  
ONE BACK BAY  
BROWNSTONE



**TAKE A  
PEAK INSIDE  
BEACON  
HILL BOOKS  
& CAFE**



# ONCE UPON A DREAM

MARRYING MID-CENTURY DESIGN AND MODERN COMFORTS WITH CLASSICAL ARCHITECTURE, THIS HOME IS NO WAKING DREAM.

BY MADISON DUDDY  
PHOTOGRAPHED BY  
READ MCKENDREE

The team added mirrored doors to the dining room built-ins that reflect light.







Thirty-five years ago, one newlywed couple walked the streets of Back Bay, imagining a life inside one of the illustrious brownstones. “He was at MIT and she was working at the Pru,” says San Francisco-based interior designer Chantal Lamberto ([chantallamberto.com](http://chantallamberto.com)) of the clients. “It was heartwarming to hear their story and it felt so meaningful that they were fulfilling their dream to one day live in a Back Bay brownstone.” After residing in many cities across the country, including Carmel-by-the-Sea, Calif., and New York, the two finally found their way back to Boston and turned their onetime dream into a reality by purchasing a two-story unit in a historic brownstone. Blending the old and new, this three-bed, 2 ½-bath home features clean and fresh design elements that complement the building’s classical details. “I think what ultimately became our path for success was to let the architectural bones be the star of the show by painting all of the walls Benjamin Moore Cloud White,” she notes. “Then, we relied on textures and luxurious fibers such as silk, alpaca



From left: Off the dining room, find this chic little area with an eye-catching table; homeowners can cozy up on the library's reupholstered Baker sofa.







In the living room, a Holly Hunt silk and wool rug wows in two shades of gray. Opposite page: The Caesarstone countertops add a bright pop against gray details.

and wool, rather than using [a lot of] patterns.” Once inside the warm, light-filled home, the attention to texture, striking furniture and art wows—each piece is a meaningful part of the overall composition. The owner’s jumping-off point? A pair of Hans Wegner (1stdibs.com) Papa Bear chairs for the living room. “They were the complete antidote to stuffy, overly traditional style and the perfect way to bridge this classic home with comfortable modern living in an interesting, artful way,” she says of the soft wool felt chairs. Also adding to the white, gray and black-hued space is an artistic glass Lindsey Adelman (lindseyadelman.com) light fixture above a cream banquette and coffee table from Atelier Purcell (atelierpurcell.com), gray Mattaliano (mattaliano.com) sofa and Caste (castedesign.us) bench. However, the piece de resistance is a mirror above the gas fireplace, which the designer discovered in one of the couple’s favorite New York City restaurants, Casa Lever. “I was on a buying trip in New York sourcing for this project, and we stopped in for dinner at Casa Lever. In the bar area, they have really chic mirrors, and what makes them so special is a very deep, curved frame in a



beautiful gilded finish,” she says. “My team reached out to the restaurant, who graciously put us in touch with their interior designer that allowed us to place a custom order through their resource. It was such a special story to have that design. A little part of New York in their home in Boston.” On the opposite end of the first floor awaits a classical yet minimalist dining

room coated in Cloud White—an abstract custom rug by Christopher Farr (christopherfarr.com) with a black-and-white brushstroke design provides one of the home’s few bold patterns. Modern, plush beetle chairs by Gubi (gubi.com) surround a bespoke bleached walnut and handpolished table by Gregorius Pineo (gregoriuspineo.com), all beneath



an exquisite Paul Ferrante (paulferrante.com) chandelier. To add a historic touch, Lamberto dressed up the ceiling with a dramatic medallion above the main light fixture; this was also done in the living room. As the kitchen received small touches like high-gloss paint, vintage Italian light fixtures, a Waterworks (waterworks.com) Henry faucet and Anthony Lawrence-Belfair (anthonylawrence.com) bar stools, so did the primary bedroom. A clean and simple Christian Liaigre (studioliaigre.com) four-poster bed serves as a focal point, bookended by two light wood bedside tables from Gregorius Pineo and lamps by Stephen

Gerould (stephengerould.com). Completing this calming haven is a cozy seating area, bathed in natural light from a bay window. Here, the homeowners can unwind in their midcentury grasshopper chair, situated beside an abstract Kelly Wearstler sculpture (kellywearstler.com), and absorb their dream realized. ■



From left: The calming primary bathroom also includes a stunning painting by Ricardo Mazal; balancing out the iconic four-poster bed and grasshopper chair is a simple area rug.

## DESIGN DETAILS

**TYPE**  
Single-family home

**INTERIOR DESIGNER**  
Chantal Lamberto  
chantallamberto.com

**CONTRACTOR**  
Adams + Beasley Associates  
adamsbeasley.com

## RESOURCES

**GREGORIUS PINEO**  
Table, dining room;  
bedside tables, primary bedroom  
gregoriuspineo.com

**MATTALIANO**  
Sofa, living room  
mattaliano.com

**RICARDO MAZAL**  
Painting, living room;  
painting, primary bathroom  
ricardomazal.com

**URBAN ELECTRIC**  
Sconces, living room  
urbanelectric.com

**ALFONSO MARINA**  
Bench, primary bedroom  
alfonsomarina.com

**LINDSEY ADELMAN**  
Light fixture, living room  
lindseyadelman.com