

THE HOME & DESIGN ISSUE

# NEWPORT

## BEACH



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Spaces

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ROOMS

**Plus:**

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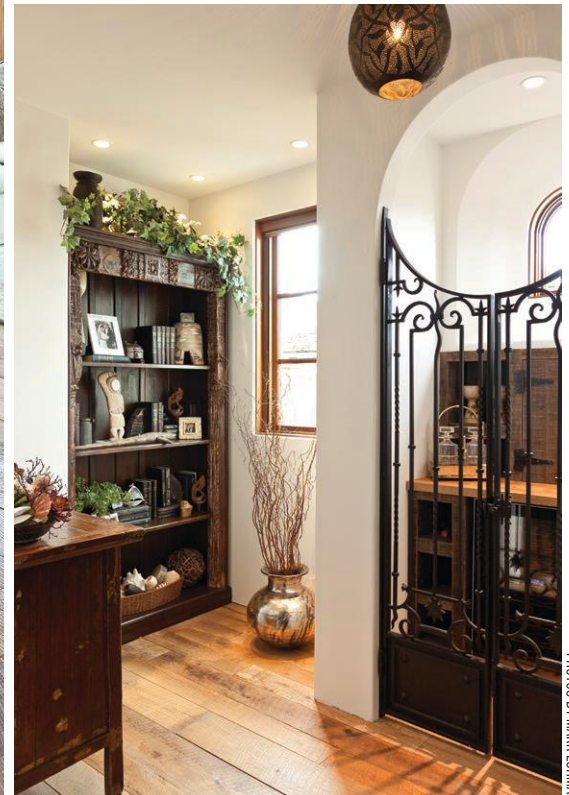
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PHOTOS BY MARK LOHMAN

## BAR NONE

Homeowners: Tim and Debbie Howell Designer: Megan Williams Architect: William Edwards, Planet Design  
 Builder: Matt White, Matt White Custom Homes Inc.  
 Reclaimed Wine Barrels: Vintage Wood Floor Company Year of Remodel: 2010

When Tim and Debbie Howell of Corona del Mar had their home redesigned in 2010, Debbie wanted to incorporate a room for entertaining. “We wanted a place where kids and adults could coexist comfortably,” she says. She turned to designer Megan Williams to create a space that was stylish, yet durable.

Within the 240-square-foot space, the kids now have a bar-height table that seats four, which is perfect for playing games. The adults can lounge at the custom-made bar and indulge in a glass of wine, or catch a game on TV. The bar is a conversation piece, made out of reclaimed wine barrels with stamps from France and California. “I combined wood from red wine barrels and white wine barrels to create contrast and show the rich burgundy color the wood has from the red wine stain,” Megan explains.

The front of the bar is copper framed in reclaimed wood from old Kentucky fences, and the countertops behind the bar are

made from seagrass limestone. The rustic theme also carries over to the floor, which is made from reclaimed white oak.

“My inspiration for the other areas of the bar all come from the beautiful autumn tones in the wine barrel wood,” Megan says. “I wanted all finish materials to be organic or possess an authentic aged appearance.”

Rather than a wine cellar, the Howells decided to build what they call a wine “closet” with a wine rack and cupboard also made from reclaimed wood. Megan designed a one-of-a-kind iron gate for the wine closet entrance, based on her sketches inspired by early California Spanish-style architecture.

As for the Howells, they couldn’t be more thrilled with their new entertainment area. “We now have a nice place to sit where my friends and I can be comfortable and the kids can play,” Debbie says.