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MIX MASTER



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FROM NEW YORK TO CALIFORNIA, INTERIOR DESIGNERS ARE LURING US OUTDOORS WITH CAN'T-RESIST SPACES THAT BALANCE A SENSE OF PLACE WITH A SENSE OF STYLE.

WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY **CAREN KURLANDER**

ASHLEY WHITTAKER

BEACH CHIC

COOL COLORS, A MIX OF MATERIALS AND TAILORED LINES FLOW TOGETHER IN SOPHISTICATED OUTDOOR SPACES THAT SPEAK TO THEIR HAMPTONS LOCALE.



Designer Ashley Whittaker appointed the exterior spaces of a Southampton house with refined pieces that still reflect their coastal locale. A mix of casual teak and elegant white furnishings are offset with blue fabrics that “blend in with the pool and the sky,” says Whittaker.

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“People want a relaxed but elegant lifestyle in the Hamptons,” says New York designer Ashley Whittaker, and outdoor spaces play an integral role in that balance. “It’s nice to be able to have a cocktail by the pool in a beautiful setting, but you don’t want it to feel so formal that a family can’t enjoy it.” For a house in Southampton, Whittaker paired McKinnon and Harris furnishings, marked by a classic lattice pattern, with custom teak pieces and kept comfortable cushions feeling refined by adding trim or contrast welts. “It has a youthfulness and a brightness,” she says, “but it’s still quintessentially Hamptons.”



“We added potted hydrangeas out by the pool to define the space and give it a sense of intimacy. For the upper seating area, two obelisk planters help delineate the group.”

“The Hamptons’ season is geared towards summer, so we installed a retractable awning on the terrace. If it’s a little bit drizzly, you can still be outside and enjoy the space.”

“The blue-and-white palette is a classic Hamptons look, but we punched it up with the Quadrille patterned fabric on the pillows. It updates the style and doesn’t feel predictable.”

“The most important step in designing an outdoor area is to make a furniture plan. You should think about how you’d like to live in your exterior spaces just as you would for your living room.”



Graphic lines on this pillow lend a bold yet tailored punch. *Mitered Outdoor Pillow*, \$295; lillianaugust.com



A teak umbrella offers a shot of color and creates a welcoming shady spot poolside. *Riviera Teak 9’ Hexagon*, \$3,560; sbumbrella.com



Lattice is reimagined on this comfortable garden-ready chair. *duVal-Alexander Club Chair*, \$7,350; mckinnonharris.com



Emissary’s blue ceramic stool can double as a convenient and stylish side table. *Large Lattice Garden Stool*, \$550; insideavenue.com

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Whittaker customized chaise lounges by bringing store-bought cushions to her upholsterer to have a graphic white tape trim added. "That extra detail makes it feel more elegant," says the designer, who put in brick by the pool to define the terrace. Potted hydrangeas create a border and complement landscaping done by Tish Rehill of Gardeneering, Inc.