



The kitchen and living room open out to the terrace and swimming pool (conveniently located near the porch so adults can relax while keeping an eye on the kiddos).

CONTEMPORARY COTTAGE

Spacious yet warm with getaway spaces for both parents and kids, this charming home was built for family living.

LUXURY HOME TOUR

BUILDER
Reuter Walton
Construction, Inc.

HOME LOCATION
Minneapolis

SQUARE FOOTAGE
5,518

ARCHITECT
Peterssen/Keller
Architecture

INTERIOR DESIGNER
Martha O'Hara Interiors

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After finding an oversize lot near Lake Bde Maka Ska that could accommodate their active lifestyle and love of outdoor living, Nick and Breana Walton began planning their eight-block move to a new urban cottage designed by longtime collaborator Peterssen/Keller Architecture. “We do a lot of work with Peterssen/Keller,” says Nick Walton, co-founder of Reuter Walton Construction in Minneapolis. “This house is a combination of bits and pieces from our various projects.”

Note the two gabled pavilions with a steep roofline, and dormers and vertical nickel gap siding and metal panels: they're linked by a glass-walled living room behind the traditional, columned front porch. Then enter spacious interiors in a minimalist white, black, and blue-gray color palette, with elegant finishes including white oak flooring, Baltic bluestone and blackened-steel fireplaces, and Paragon Aurea quartz countertops. The 5,518-square-foot house blends traditional cottage vernacular with an open modern aesthetic for a truly striking result.

Unsurprising for a couple with three kids, the kitchen is the hub of the house. Long enough to include a family lounge with wood-burning fireplace and a harvest table beneath a contemporary chandelier, the kitchen has floor-to-ceiling commercial windows (framed in black steel), which open to the terrace and swimming pool to the west. The terrace leads to a bluestone three-season space with retractable screens and a stone wood-burning fireplace. “That space will extend the seasons so much we'll only really need to spend four months inside,” Walton says.

An adjacent hallway has a row of hooks for hanging wet towels and swimsuits, and leads to a pool bathroom/powder room with shower. The entry from the garage is a spacious mudroom with lots of cabinets for storing gear and a faucet for filling the dogs' water dish (for a close-up look on this fun feature, see page 112). The easy flow between interior and exterior living spaces and bountiful transparency through plentiful windows ensures daylight and outdoor views can be enjoyed even during the winter months.

Tucked behind the kitchen with its shiplap ceiling and cabinetry from Nest Woodworking is Breana's office—command central, with plentiful built-ins for storage and a magnetized wall for notes—across from a prep kitchen with refrigerated cabinets, leading to the home's formal dining room. The stairs lead to the kids' bedrooms in the north pavilion, bathrooms, and hangout space with built-in beds.

The second level of the other pavilion houses the master suite. Here, the parents enjoy their own private getaway space with a window seat and wet bar with refrigerator drawers. Adjacent to the bedroom is the master bath, featuring white oak cabinetry, a marble steam shower with two heads, and a spa bath. To add pop throughout the house, Martha O'Hara Interiors included contemporary art and colorful, patterned textiles—adding the final touch to a dream home created by a dream team of local artisans. 🏡

CAMILLE LEFEVRE writes about architecture and design for *Midwest Home* and other regional and national publications.

FOR INFORMATION ON PRODUCTS AND SUPPLIERS, SEE PAGE 108.



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE
As the gathering hub of the home, the kitchen offers plentiful space for the entire family, and the Shaker-style cabinetry and harvest table situated beneath a contemporary chandelier emphasize the house's "contemporary cottage" aesthetic. Upon arrival, guests are met with an inviting front porch tucked beneath one of the home's two distinctive gabled pavilions. The foyer leads into a series of simple, spacious interiors decorated in neutral tones and understated materials, and each room flows seamlessly into the next to create a relaxed, easygoing atmosphere. White oak flooring and a baltic bluestone and blackened-steel fireplace are showcased in the home's casual, glassed-in living room.





CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE
 Located beneath one of the home's pavilions is a three-season porch that features retractable screens, a stone wood-burning fireplace, and a variety of seating options. The plentiful windows in the formal dining room and glass-walled family lounge ensure daylight and outdoor views while contemporary art and brightly patterned textiles add pops of color throughout the spaces. A luxurious spa bath acts as the focal point of the master bathroom, while white oak cabinetry and a beautiful vanity tucked in the corner add charm and elegance. Perhaps the most memorable elements of the home are its U-shape—the house wraps around the swimming pool and patio in the backyard—and its steep rooflines and classic white exterior, which create a modern-yet-traditional cottage motif.

