

# ALL UNDER ONE WOOF

A La Jolla family gives new meaning to the phrase “in the doghouse”

By Kimberly Cunningham | Photography by PreviewFirst and Jen & Bec



**NEIGHBORHOOD**  
La Jolla

**STATS**  
4 bedrooms,  
5 baths,  
6,044 square feet

**THEIR STORY:** Neal and Heike Maglaque share this stunning, multilevel coastal home with their son, Alex, 14, and three Labradors. Heike is an avid volunteer for Labrador Rescuers and Leave No Paws Behind, and has spent years fostering the dogs “no one wanted to adopt,” the older ones with medical issues, like Lily (above center), who is blind. When the couple bought the property in 2011, they decided it was going to be their forever house, and enlisted Jackson Design & Remodeling to help with the refresh. At times, it was a battle of wills: Neal leans modern; Heike’s more traditional. He wanted a third story; she wanted more dogs. The result is a place where bathtubs and showers have ocean views, and where everything from the audio system to a LED dimmer on the kitchen island can be controlled from an iPhone. Yet, even with all these amenities, Heike says, “the whole house is about the dogs,” with extra-durable, scratch-resistant European oak floors and a padded runner along the stairs, to keep the Labs from slipping on the way down. In short, it’s the nicest doghouse we’ve ever seen.



## TOP TIER

The home's exterior is a mix of East Coast traditional and California coastal modern. New pale gray siding complements the existing brick walls. Perched on a hill overlooking the Pacific, the home offers incredible ocean views. But the original layout, built in 1957, was closed off, with most of the windows and doors facing the wrong direction. Jackson Design switched that, opening the interior and making sure the west-facing windows were as wide and tall as possible.

Glass railings with classic white posts also preserve the views, now visible from almost every room. The couple added a third level above the garage, which contains Neal's office and the master suite, complete with a marble-clad, award-winning bathroom. John DeMaria of DeMaria LandTech redesigned the pool and much of the surrounding land-and hardscapes, including a fire pit with built-in seating for the whole family. Poolside s'mores, anyone?



### TRADITIONAL VS. MODERN

Interior designer Sol Quintana Wagoner, along with Vanessa Tejera and Chris Ashby, worked to open the interior by taking down walls that were blocking the light and obstructing the view. Now the living room is expansive and bright, while also simple and uncluttered. Clean modern lines blend with more traditional

elements like molding and a fireplace surround. An antique Persian area rug provides a pop of blue in a mostly white space. "I love the colors," Heike says. "It gives the house a little personality." To combat canine traffic, the couple chose durable European oak flooring by DuChateau. To see how easily they would

scratch, Sol and her team took a fork to the planks. They barely made a mark. (Shelby wing chair and Heron coffee table from Ethan Allen; rug from Jam Rugs in La Jolla)



## OPEN AND AIRY

At first glance, the kitchen, family and dining areas appear to be one large room, but subtle details, such as molding, varied window styles, and a coffered ceiling above the dining table, establish distinct spaces. A colorful portrait of Lily and the family's chocolate Lab, Enzo, hangs in the dining room. It was painted by Julie

Dalton Gourgues and donated to Labrador Rescuers. Heike purchased it at an auction. In the kitchen, dark flooring and paneling on the island are meant to look more furniture-like and less kitchen-ish. Appliances are concealed within cabinetry. The light pendants and wall sconces, unconventional choices for a kitchen, add a

touch of elegance, as do the glass tiles framed by white molding near the large farmhouse sink. "They wanted to keep the bones and personality of the house, but add in some contemporary elements," Sol says. "They like things a little glitzy and shimmering." (Dining table and sofa by Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams)



## TUB WITH A VIEW

“Make it light, make it bright, and a good size.” Such were Heike’s instructions for the master bath, which is an expanse of marble with extra-long windows and a freestanding tub. The windows have built-in blinds that rise from the bottom, providing privacy without hindering the view. “That’s something you need to know in the beginning stages of the remodel,” Sol explains. The space is lined with a hexagon marble floor. Much like the kitchen, the cherry wood sink console is designed to look

like furniture, with curved feet that add a certain flair. Mirrors double as medicine cabinets against a glass and marble tile backsplash. The dual sink countertop is made of marble-like granite, to avoid stains. “It was all about Sol’s suggestions,” Heike says. “We worked with the same colors in different patterns. I thought, *Brown and gray? Really?* But it’s beautiful, and also super functional.” (Lucente Ambrato mosaic tile from San Diego Marble & Tile)

