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Tria Giovan

The Cozy Home

Designing for warmth and comfort

BY JENNIFER TZESES

The lure of an overstuffed sofa, the soft splendor of a cashmere blanket, the layered touch of multiple textures—there are so many qualities that can give a home the warm and cozies. And sometimes, comfort is all in the eye of the beholder. We asked five top interior designers to spill the tea on what makes a cozy home.

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Subtle and Serene

“Through large windows and a natural palette, we designed a space that is harmonious with the environment. Soft whites and neutrals ground the room, and hardwood flooring, wood accents, and textures from the pillows and throws cozy up the space. Layering different accessories and furniture styles from different periods adds to the warmth. We used the same color, with different finishes, for the walls and trim to give a very subtle and serene contrast to the room.”

— **Allison Babcock of Allison Babcock Design in Sag Harbor, New York**

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Warm and Inviting

“The couple who lives in this Santa Fe, New Mexico, home have their evening cocktail in this library every day because it is so warm and inviting. The furnishings are mostly keepsakes from the owners’ travels around the globe. Signature pops of color and pattern, via the Navajo carpet and the striped couch, make the room warm and inviting, while the large windows bring in a dose of nature. And there is lots of inviting seating and a fireplace to curl up with a book and relax.”

— **Paul Rochford and Michael Violante of Violante & Rochford Interiors in Santa Fe, New Mexico**

Wendy McEahern



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A Truly Cozy Great Room

“Though this mountain modern home at Alpine Mountain Ranch & Club in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, has lots of glass and tall ceilings, wood beams and wide-plank wood flooring give the great room a sense of warmth. The lighting was also carefully placed throughout the ceilings to create warmth. Shaggy area rugs, textured fabrics, and pillows and throws add the final layer to make the room feel cozy.”

— **Leslie Dapper, lead designer at RUMOR DESIGN + reDESIGN in Steamboat Springs, Colorado**



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A Spanish Influence

“The juxtaposition of a bright, neutral color palette with traditional Spanish architecture and materials creates an inviting, cozy, and refined space. Natural and organic materials such as wood and clay instill a sense of calm and rest. Authentic Saltillo tiles on the floor, wood beams, and warm, white paint provide a complementary backdrop for neutral, textured fabrics, vintage wooden furniture and accessories, and hand-made ceramic pots. There are charming niches tucked away in the walls and a subtle contrast between soft, organic forms with clean lines and structure.”

— **Kari Arendsen, founder and design principal of Intimate Living Interiors in Solana Beach, California**



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Beautiful—With a Focus on Practicality

“Nestled in the woods surrounding Ulery’s Lake in Montana’s Moonlight Basin community, this lake cabin blends into its surroundings. We furnished the space using leather, woven materials, and wool—and chose art from local artists to complement the location and add color and life. We brought in leather for durability and vintage rugs for some extra soul. The entire design process focused on creating an inviting environment that wasn’t precious and would hold up to everyday life while still looking beautiful.”

— **Ashley Sanford, co-owner of Clean Line Consulting, a Bozeman, Montana-based interior design firm**

Clockwise from top: Rocky Mountain Photography; Justine Jane Photography; Ryan Garvin