

# Family

# Matters

INTERIOR DESIGNER ROXANNE PACKHAM BALANCES  
OLD AND NEW IN A BELOVED FAMILY VACATION RETREAT

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Roxanne Packham's family  
getaway on Lake Arrowhead  
includes beachside bocce and  
bucolic views.





**N**ESTLED IN THE PINES ABOVE a private cove, this 3,800-sq-ft Lake Arrowhead house has been a summer retreat for generations. When designer Roxanne Packham of Sunset and Magnolia ([sunsetandmagnolia.com](http://sunsetandmagnolia.com)) in Santa Rosa Valley was asked to refresh the home's interiors, she faced her most daunting clients—her own family.

“This place has been in my family since the 1980s,” says Packham of the rambling Cape Cod-style home that dates to the 1920s. “Four generations of us have been

coming up here during the holidays and in the summer. There can be up to 14 of us in the house at any given time.”

Packham's parents, Linda Adler Hughes and Bill Hughes bought the house, adding on over the years and decorating it in an English-inspired motif, filled with antiques and found treasures, as well as pieces Linda incorporated from her father and grandfather—respectively, the late silversmiths Allan Adler and Porter Blanchard. Several years ago, Packham's sister, interior designer Michele Hughes, updated the kitchen, opening it to the dining room.



**LEFT** Vintage Brown Jordan furniture creates an inviting setting for lunch on the back patio that overlooks the lake.

**OPPOSITE** For an easy update, living room's Habersham hutch was refinished and fitted with sconces. Thibaut grasscloth wall covering adds a beachy appeal.



For this redo, Packham had to engage in a balancing act. “Everyone loves this house and didn’t want it to change,” says Packham, an Allied Member of ASID who specializes in residential design. “But this is a home that’s used hard. We come up from the beach in our swimsuits and plop down. We cook, we eat, we talk. Things got worn out, so it needed an update.”

Heeding familial input, Packham decided a light touch was the best approach. She kept most of the furnishings and accessories, but wove in a few new pieces and relied on reupholstering, plus new carpets, finishes, wall coverings and fabric treatments to give the interior a fresh look without losing its beloved appeal.

In the living room, an older Habersham hutch was repainted in a distressed cream-hued finish, while the existing sofas were reupholstered in a silvery Clay McLaurin Studio fabric with a subtle pattern. A new Dash & Albert sisal area rug can withstand sandy feet and tracked-in pine needles. “Almost all of the new fabrics have patterns so you can’t see stains and wear,” says Packham. “Even the Thibaut wall covering in the living room is grass-cloth, which hides fingerprints.”

For the dining room, Packham paired McGuire bamboo chairs with Thibaut fabric cushions, perfect complements to the distressed alder table and her great grandfather Porter Blanchard’s butter churn that he turned into a side table. The family room’s Barclay Butera sectional was re-covered in a Ralph Lauren floral, creating an inviting spot to lounge and snack in front of the native stone fireplace.

Packham treated each of the six bedrooms like suites in a charming B&B, each with its own theme and lavished with fabrics. A downstairs bedroom has a woodsy look, thanks to a Raoul Textiles linen toile, used for the bedding, fauteuil and upholstered walls. A blue and white Raoul Textiles floral graces an upstairs bedroom, where yards of the print create a drapery-like wall treatment, meant to disguise a slanted ceiling line.

Throughout, Packham made sure family treasures still shone, balancing, for example, an antique pine chest and nightstand in the master bedroom with a new custom Ralph Lauren velvet-upholstered headboard and reframing old menus her



mother had swiped from restaurants around the world, so the graphics stand out against the John Robshaw wallpaper. “This house has a lot of small spaces, a lot of little nooks and crannies,” says Packham. “Each space has its own flavor and personality.”

Packham’s project received the family’s stamp of approval and continues to be a comfortable backdrop for everything from swimming and games of beachside bocce to meals enjoyed together and late-night fireside conversations.

“As with all my projects,” says Packham, “this house represents my clients and what they love. In this case, it was my family.” CH



**ABOVE** Window seats and McGuire chairs can accommodate a crowd in the dining room, where great-grandfather Porter Blanchard’s antique butter churn was converted to a side table. **BELOW** The updated kitchen includes white cabinetry and matchstick blinds, which add a rustic touch. **OPPOSITE** A Christopher Guy mirror creates a focal point above the living room’s rock fireplace. The sofas were reupholstered in a Clay McLaurin Studio fabric.





**BELOW LEFT** A daybed at the top of the stairs, covered in a Kravet fabric, is a quiet spot for reading and naps.

**BELOW RIGHT** An upstairs bathroom was refreshed with a sunny Thibaut wall covering.

**OPPOSITE** John Robshaw wallpaper adds pattern to the master bedroom, where the deep hues of a new custom headboard in a Ralph Lauren fabric complements an antique pine cabinet.

