

LYNNE  
SCALO  
DESIGN

LYNNE SCALO  
TEL 203.222.4991  
FAX 203.222.4915  
23 JESUP ROAD  
WESTPORT, CT 06880  
LSCIRCA2000@AOL.COM





**Sea Worthy** | The master bedroom walls (OPPOSITE) are painted in a variation of Nantucket red in keeping with the underlying classic New England theme. The mirrored chest and bed are custom designed and the pillow fabric is from Bergamo. **Lead the Way** | Drawings of sunflowers by Robert Longstreet (ABOVE LEFT) line the stairway. **Bedside Manner** | In the daughter's room (ABOVE RIGHT), a decoratively painted chair is used as a bedside table that also doubles as a place for Mom to sit when she reads a bedtime story. All furniture and bedding are custom designed by Scalo. See Resources.

distressed so it won't show any sins!"

Finally, in the family room, Scalo chose a sturdy sofa with a linen slipcover and a coffee table with a poured-resin-and-steel base capable of withstanding spills and inadvertent kicks. She also opted for an easy-care, nonallergenic rug made of cowhide squares that can be vacuumed without hesitation.

While nonallergenic and child-friendly materials were a priority, Jody gave Scalo one extra guideline. Carried over from the days when the Rindes lived in the Hamptons, Jody wanted a soothing palette evoking the glories of the seaside. Scalo achieved this by using colors, fabrics and art that reflect surf and sand.

For the dining room, she created a custom paint she calls Foggy Montauk Blue. In the living room she covered the accent pillows with a seaweed-pattern fabric from Donghia. In the entryway and dining room she hung paintings of churning seas, and throughout the house she placed a variety of other sea-inspired accessories, including a resin centerpiece shaped like a shell and the Capiz chandeliers.

In the end, the home became an ode to creativity sparked by limitations. By using unexpected materials like cowhide, Plexiglas, faux crocodile and resin and arranging them in a sophisticated, clutter-free way, Scalo was able to meet a family's needs and create an entirely original look. The result was a modern, grown-up design suitable for the kids. 🌞



tion of the interiors. In the entryway a crisp, clean-lined love seat covered in nonallergenic cowhide sits on a pristine hardwood floor. In the living room, two sleek sofas placed on a hypoallergenic shag rug sit on either side of a transparent, shatterproof Plexiglas coffee table. Scalo created a stew of textures here by wrapping the outside of the sofas with an earthy raw silk and the seat cushion with a layer of ultrasoft velvet. By arranging the pieces on the fluffy shag she was able to emphasize their sculptural forms and anchor the design.

For the walls the designer created a dark, espresso-colored paint that not only hides the occasional handprint or scuff but also accentuates the architectural and decorative elements of the room, such as the mantel, the coffered ceiling and the twin chandeliers, which are made of tiers of Capiz shell discs.

The kitchen was also designed in a minimalist fashion for easy cleanup, and lightweight wooden chairs allow the children easy access to and from the table. In this room, scribbling on the wall is no grounds for punishment, because Scalo installed an oversized blackboard on the wall. It keeps the mood casual and offers a place to write reminder notes about lessons and sports practices and the occasional "I love you" from the children. It also serves as a creative distraction while Jody prepares meals. Even accessories like the sturdy resin antler candelabra on the table can be easily moved by the children when it's time to set the table, without fear of them being nicked or broken.

In the dining room, Scalo had the chairs upholstered in a chic, wipe-able faux crocodile material. "It's a very sophisticated look, and the kids can't destroy it," she explains. "The table is also kid-proof in another fashion; it's walnut but the finish is lightly

**Subdued Elegance** | Faux-crocodile leather chairs (OPPOSITE) surround a walnut table and chandelier from John Rosselli. Autumnal balls spill out of a resin centerpiece shaped like a giant clamshell. A painting of crashing waves hangs on a wall painted Foggy Montauk Blue—another custom color by Scalo. **Elegant Packaging** | The Rinde's Colonial-style home (TOP RIGHT). **Welcome Home** | In the entrance hall (RIGHT), Scalo created a minimal but decorative vignette with a few key pieces. The ornate wrought-iron console is a custom piece from her design firm. See Resources.





## MATERIAL INSTINCTS



INTERIOR DESIGNER LYNNE SCALO ORCHESTRATES  
AN INVENTIVE (AND HYPOALLERGENIC) MEDLEY OF  
FABRICS AND FURNISHINGS FOR A WESTPORT HOME  
BY ANNA KASABIAN | PHOTOGRAPHS BY AIMEE HERRING



Prior to moving into their six-bedroom, five-bath Colonial-style home in Westport, Jeff and Jody Rinde lived a big-city life in Atlanta, Miami and New York City. Along the way, they acquired an appreciation for art, eclectic furnishings and unusual collectibles. They also acquired two young children, Ethan and Daria, and a non-shedding Labradoodle named Maggie.

The goal for their newly built home was a child-friendly space that would be as stylish as it was practical. But there was one other catch: Both Jody and her son suffer from allergies, so the furnishings needed to be nonallergenic. To help them, they consulted Westport interior designer Lynne Scalo of Lynne Scalo Designs, who embraced the challenge.

"This was a total reinterpretation of New England style for today's sophisticated family," Scalo says of the project. She realized that two children and a pup wouldn't be able to resist running down the halls, up the staircase and through almost every room, so she took particular care to avoid cluttering the space and placing breakables in precarious positions. The result is a house free of extraneous knickknacks and unnecessary furniture. Each piece, whether a couch or antique chest of drawers, becomes a vignette in itself, and groupings of furniture take on the richness and complexity of a work of art, full of graphic contrasts.

The use of hypoallergenic materials also presented a design challenge that ultimately heightened the sophisticated

**Sophisticated** | Sleek Donghia couches (PREVIOUS SPREAD LEFT) flank a Plexiglas coffee table. Overhead hangs a pair of Capiz shell chandeliers by Oly Studio. The walls are painted dark brown, a custom color created by interior designer Lynne Scalo, to accentuate the architecture of the room. **Spotlight** | The absence of clutter means showcasing furniture like these two entryway pieces (PREVIOUS SPREAD RIGHT): a cowhide-covered bench and Moroccan walnut chest inlaid with mother-of-pearl. **Writing on the Wall** | A blackboard (TOP LEFT) in the kitchen keeps kids entertained while Mom, Jody Rinde, prepares meals. **Top it Off** | A modern chandelier from John Rosselli (LEFT) hangs above resin antler candelabra. The curtain fabric by Osborne & Little. **Easy Living** | Maggie, a Labradoodle, (OPPOSITE), sits on the custom-designed sofa covered in a sturdy Beacon Hill linen. Silk pillows by Roost add pattern, and shaggy sheep skin pillows add texture. See Resources.

