Repetition was interior designer Jessica Davis’ strategy for decorating both this open-plan living space and the rest of the house. Plants, natural woven fibers, bold vintage rugs, and large-scale artwork appear in every room.

**THIS CALIFORNIA HOME PROVES THAT BRIGHT AND AIRY CAN ALSO BE COZY WHEN YOU LAYER AND REPEAT.**

**CREATING FLOW**

Davis installed shiplap around the brick fireplace to echo horizontal lines of built-ins throughout the main living area. In lieu of wide planks, she used strips of bender board. The mirror above the mantel bounces light from a skylight into this windowless side of the house.
The kitchen window slides open to ease passing food to an outdoor dining area.

**Making Old New**

Vintage rugs, like the one the homeowners fell in love with, above, “aren’t usually sized for today’s living,” Davis says. By layering the rug on a beachy seagrass one, she was able to make it work in this large space. Davis hits Etsy for antique rugs from countries like Turkey. (She found the kitchen runner on the site.)

**Using Height**

One of Davis’ favorite ways to divide an open-plan space is to change the ceiling heights and lighting. The dropped ceiling of the kitchen, for example, “makes it feel like its own room while still being open to the rest of the space,” she says. The low-hung pendants underscore the division.

**Bleeding In**

The gallery wall started with the least attractive piece: the television. “There was only one wall where it could go, so we wanted to camouflage it,” Davis says. The photography, landscapes, and abstract paintings in soft colors don’t vie for attention when the TV is on.

Stark white box. That was the best way to describe this new build in Santa Monica, CA, when interior designer Jessica Davis started decorating it. To warm the space for a family, the Nest Studio designer added architectural details like shiplap and built-ins then mixed in vintage and new furnishings. Against those rich layers, the white walls now feel fresh rather than clinical. “We wanted a space that felt comfortable and collected but still had that element of California cool,” she says.

Without walls to create intimacy in the vast 42’ x 25’ main level, Davis relied on strategically placed rugs, furniture, and lighting to give the feeling of separate rooms.
PLAYING WITH DETAILS

Pulling up two types of chairs to the farmhouse-style dining table energizes it. For another touch of playfulness, Davis chose leather end chairs with robin’s-egg blue legs. (The leather matches the sofa.)

Large-scale art balances the gallery wall at the other end of the room. “You can’t have two gallery walls in one room. It gets too busy,” she says.

A FEATURE CHANDELIER ANCHORS THE DINING SPACE, MAKING IT FEEL LIKE A SEPARATE ROOM.

INTERIOR DESIGNER JESSICA DAVIS
To stay on budget, the designer incorporated some of her favorite high-impact, low-cost pieces.

**ART HACK**
“Framing can be costly. A great way to add texture and fill space at a lower cost is to hang woven pieces.” The macramé wreath in the living room was a flea market find, and the dining room wall hanging came from Etsy.

**CUSTOM WITHOUT THE PRICE TAG**
Patterned window shades have a designer look, but Davis uses online retailer Spoonflower for less-expensive fabric. “I love them because you can change the base fabric, scale, and color.”

**DOSES OF COLOR**
She champions colorful hanging fixtures like the green pendant lights in the kitchen. “They’re an inexpensive color fix.”