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SPECIAL HOME SECTION

Freshen up with color P. 99

HOME

AND DESIGN

SPECIAL
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Dive into color

The pool and deck of Caitlin Blue and Eric Waterman's Los Angeles home (page 100) are awash in a vibrant contrast of orange and blue.

Seven stories to use as springboards for easy home transformations—from breakout trends and bolder picture mats to bringing vivid hues outside

INSIDE:

- 100 | Daring color inside and out
- 106 | Tips from the guru of hue
- 108 | Picture-mat advice
- 110 | Pigmented plasters
- 114 | Desert palette
- 118 | Black kitchen
- 120 | Bright cottage

SPECIAL
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SECTION

Make a splash

Bold color combos leap out against a neutral backdrop

BY KATHRYN HARRIS • PHOTOGRAPHS BY LISA ROMEREIN

Opposites attract, but what happens when they marry and move in together? Caitlin Blue knew she would need more than her professional expertise as a Disney set decorator when it came to renovating her first home with her husband, Eric Waterman. "She's eclectic and funky, and he's a modernist," says Julie Hart, the designer who collaborated with Blue on the project. "Everything was a negotiation and a trade-off." Hart helped transform the 1950s California ranch-style house in L.A.'s Pacific Palisades neighborhood into a vibrant, contemporary home for the couple, who are

Shades of orange, green, and blue are frequently repeated throughout the house—from the front entry (lower left) to the living-room pillows, armchair, and accessories (above).



Hits of intense color are even more striking against a neutral canvas



expecting their first child.

The biggest challenge was color. Blue has a great need for it; Waterman—like his photography collection, which embraces Henri Cartier-Bresson and Walker Evans—leans toward black and white. He insisted on white walls in most of the common areas (with the exception of a single olive green wall in the living room); oak floors stained dark chocolate; and a profusion of custom white kitchen cabinets embellished with sedate charcoal-colored quartz countertops.

So Hart and Blue restrained themselves to splashes of intense color—primarily orange and aquamarine—which became even more striking against the neutral canvas. In the kitchen, they used Blue's cache of 1950s brightly colored pottery to accent the Shaker-style cabinetry. Hart painted the cupboard interiors a vibrant orange.

In the bathroom, working within Waterman's white-on-white dictum, Blue and Hart added texture with hexagon-shaped marble floor tiles. Landscape architect Russ Cletta designed an exterior side-yard wall to be viewed from the



White dominates in the kitchen and bath, save for the view of the side-yard wall tiled in orange. The turquoise urn is from Pasadena's Asian Ceramics (www.asian-ceramics.com or 626/449-6800).