

The Luxe Lakehouse

Clint Newman, CENTER HILL LAKE

espite its many charms, Music City is possessed of an energy that one must occasionally get away from, says Clint Newman. The Green Hills-based dentist revels in downtime at his hideaway on Center Hill Lake.

"I built that house to be an escape from the craziness of Nashville," Newman says. "And to be on the lake in a gorgeous environment and hang there with my family."

Newman, who has two children, ages six and four, chose the parcel of land for the vistas

"It probably has one of the most amazing views on the lake," he adds.

Newman worked from a cottage-style house plan and engaged several architects to tweak the final design. He also hired Julie Couch of Julie Couch Interiors as the interior designer.

"Julie and I wanted to transition from a white, bright kitchen into the natural woods and the high vaulted ceiling of the living room," he says of the home's main level, which is highlighted by a dramatic stone fireplace. "It's clean," he adds. "That's the look I wanted. Not overly modern, but clean."

Couch started with a base of white and taupe tones, then added splashes of bright color and touches of whimsy. These include twin beds topped with pink pillows and throws on all-white linens and a bright turquoise chandelier in the dining room. The pristine, white kitchen features a marble-topped island and sugar, flour, and coffee jars in vivid turquoise.

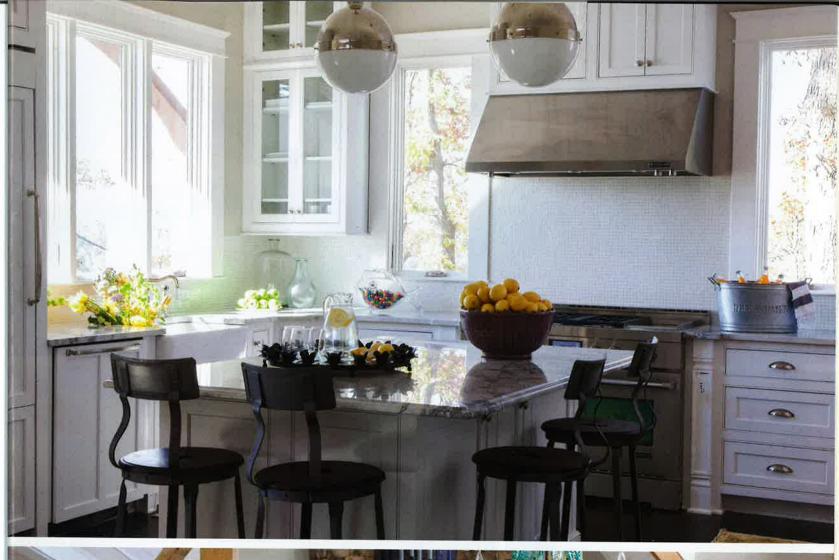
"The few big pops of color make a big impact when you have a more neutral palette," Couch says. "And it's a second house, so it should be fun. It's very much a family house, so I think the vibe of it is more cottage, very kid-friendly. There are a lot of slipcovers."

The environment is playful and nature-oriented, including a deep bathtub surrounded by glass windows that overlook the lake. Every room in the house has a lake view, in fact, and the back porch is where Newman and his children can usually be found.

"They love that lakehouse," he says. >>

















WATER WAYS

Where to eat, shop, and play near Center Hill Lake

Clint Newman loves the local scene near his second home—and chose his particular location accordingly. "It is a little bit quieter than the northern end of the lake," he says. When he does get out out of the house, here are the spots he likes to hit.

HURRICANE MARINA

Newman calls this "the best restaurant at Center Hill Lake," Expect fine dining options, including Black Angus filet mignon, coconut-crusted grouper, and lobster ravioli. (hurricanemarina.net)

FISH LIPZ

Owned by Steve Smith, proprietor of the beloved honky-tonk Tootsie's Orchid Lounge, Fish Lipz is a great place to hang, says Newman. There's traditional bar fare (fish tacos, wraps, and hamburgers) plus live music. (patesfordmarina.com)

HILLCREST RESTAURANT

Located in nearby Sparta, Hillcrest is mom-and-pop restaurant that serves up locally grown, homemade food, including country-fried steak, lasagna, and pork stew. (931-761-2225)

FALL CREEK FALLS

This is among the most beautiful places to play, says Newman, who enjoys heading out to the falls for a hike. (tnstateparks.com)

SMITHVILLE FIDDLERS' JAMBOREE AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Set in downtown Smithville, this annual festival is one of Newman's favorite events. (smithvillejamboree.com)