Kara Mann ASK A DESIGNER You have questions, and we Tips for a quick makeover?

have the experts on speed dial. Here, designer **Kara Mann** of Chicago and New York shares her wish list and what's on her radar.

Ideal wallpaper for a bedroom?

KM: I like bedrooms to be serene. light, and airy, so anything from de Gournay is usually great. I'm crazy about their lovely Lilac Hint naturally textured silk paper.

How does geography affect your design approach?

KM: For a lake house in Illinois, I'd use more subdued palettes with beautiful deep greens and true reds. For a house in the Caribbean, though, I'd kick up the intensity with vibrant fuchsia and Yves Klein deep blues. And then there are coastal colors I love in any region. (Check out the box below.)

Advice for homeowners?

KM: Edit, organize, and curate everything you own! Take time to get rid of what you don't want or need so that you can display the things you love with purpose.

On your wish list?

KM: I'm always searching antiques stores and flea markets for the perfect threadbare rug, no matter what the style—Khotans, kilims, anything that's faded.

KM: Switch out your accessories to change the feeling of a room instantly. For spring, go lighter: Use fewer pillows, and put away the heavy throws. Bring in brighter, more saturated colors.

Favorite beach brew?

KM: It's called a chelada, and I learned about it in Mexico. It's light beer on ice with fresh lime juice in a glass with a salted rimkind of like a beer margarita!

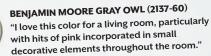
Fill your beach house with ...

KM: Beautiful pieces made from natural materials that have a wellworn patina. Your home should be simple





MY FAVORITE COASTAL PAINT COLORS



PORTER'S PAINTS WATERMELON MARGARITA

"When used in a powder room or pantry, this color is ideal for making a small space feel special."

