

Show Us Your Red, White & Blue

Blue — tried and true — has long been one of Americans' favorite colors. Paired with white the look can read clean, crisp, classic and cool. Red can also be the perfect accomplice. Get inspired by these three kids rooms — that take on sporty, maritime and other timeless schemes

WRITTEN BY MEG FOX

Home-Ice Advantage

A RANGERS FAN GETS AN ASSIST FROM HIS DESIGNER MOM

DESIGNED BY YELENA GERTS, ALLIED ASID, WCAA | PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARCO RICCA

After Yelena and Vlad Gerts moved from New York to Holmdel, Monmouth County, they wanted to create a space for their then-10-year-old-son that would be familiar and comfortable. “Our whole family are huge New York Rangers fans,” his mom says. Son Daniel has also been playing ice hockey since age six. “One thing I knew for sure, he would never get tired of seeing, red, white and blue,” specifically the rich darker hues associated with the Rangers’ winter classic color scheme.

There were a few interferences. Namely the expanse of the room, the tall ceiling and the awkwardly shaped windows, recalls Gerts, principal designer and owner of Holmdel-based House of Style & Design. Her plan of attack? Visually lower the ceiling by creating the illusion of a coffered design, framing it with molding, defining the outer edge in a bold red hue and “filling the rest with a beautiful dark navy blue paint,” she says. A modern chandelier with white bulbs hung at different levels “adds visual interest and brings attention back to the ceiling,” says Gerts, an allied member of the American Society of Interior Designers.

The color scheme — and a variety of textures and interesting elements — continues on the window wall. Natural light shines through laser-cut red panels that cover two oddly shaped windows. On both sides — on different levels — are stationary heavy cotton panels in a blue

and white color-block pattern with metal grommets. The latter “takes attention away from the set of awkward windows and makes the room look finished and warm,” says Gerts, also a member of the Window Coverings Association of America. A geometric Roman shade in the center window “brings it all together.”

Gerts established zones for sleeping, study and play and filled them with “mature furniture” that Daniel can grow into.

SOURCES interior design, Yelena Gerts, House of Style & Design in Holmdel; bed, West Elm; nightstands, chair and desk, Ikea; window treatment panels, J.F. Fabrics; laser-cut panels, Madura; lighting, Zuo Modern; art/posters, posters.com; paint colors, Exotic Red and Bold Blue, both by Benjamin Moore, and Linen White by Sherwin-Williams.

Editor's Note: Last year Daniel won a tryout to represent the New York Rangers youth team in an NHL-sponsored tournament. He wore a Rangers uniform while playing in Madison Square Garden and a major Canadian arena in front of thousands of people. “Dreams do come true,” his mother says. “All we have to do as parents is let them dream, even if it's only inside their own room.”

Yelena Gerts, whose family are fans of the New York Rangers ice hockey team, designed this room for son Daniel, taking inspiration from the team's winter classic color scheme. To warm up the space, she created the illusion of a coffered ceiling and designed clever window fashions to downplay awkwardly placed windows.



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