





## Kristina Wolf Design

*California*

At the outset of her career, Kristina Wolf considered becoming an interior designer or a police officer. She ultimately chose to serve as a decorated public servant before her still-burning passion for design led her to enroll in design school at U.C. Berkeley. An impressed professor advised her to proceed straight to opening her own firm, so in 2007 she opened Kristina Wolf Design. She's been providing the Bay Area and Northern California with thoughtful, fresh design ever since. Skills gleaned from police work—the ability to read people, to truly listen, to find common ground amid conflict—are extremely useful, and by the end of the process even couples married for years tell her they learned something new about their spouse. Kristina always acts as her homeowners' advocate first, designing within the parameters requested but also enhancing the ideas with her own expertise as needed.

Left: Working within the five-story renovated San Francisco firehouse's beautiful, historic, and challenging architectural framework, we created a dramatic yet intimate living and dining space. The tall ceilings, apparatus bay doors, and original fire pole are elements we took into consideration when designing the ideal place for entertaining and relaxed living.

*Photograph by David Duncan Livingston*



“I seek a middle ground that incorporates a bit of everything, from the edgy to the safe. But I always try to encourage my homeowners to step outside their comfort zone just a little.” *Kristina Wolf*

Above & Facing Page Top: In the firehouse living room, we floated a custom-made sectional of boiled wool fabric on top of a soft textured rug. Another custom-made piece, a coffee table inscribed with the periodic table of elements, grounds the conversation-friendly zone, and artwork and pillows add pops of color. The five “Heads of State” paintings in the dining area playfully join the other guests for dinner.

Facing Page Middle: The media room is where the homeowner unwinds and listens to music, and the design took cues from his love of travel and world culture. Masculine color tones and unique furnishings make it a bold room for entertaining as well. The nine ethnic masks on the wall framing the television add a tribal look and balance out the sleek modern furniture.

Facing Page Bottom: The views from the fifth-floor suite were a key factor in the master bedroom design. Using a minimalist approach, we highlighted the room’s open and airy feeling by using light-colored bedding offset by a custom-made, wall-mounted headboard in dark wood and leather.

*Photographs by David Duncan Livingston*







Above: A busy world traveler's living room needed to highlight the architecture of the space and play to the owner's eclectic personality. I selected different textures, patterns, furnishings, and colors and arranged them to converge and harmonize into one soothing retreat.

Right: Large-scale chairs punctuate the adjacent dining room as the main statement pieces. Modern and global elements—representative of the owner's two worlds—blend into one artistic space pleasing to the eye.

Facing Page Top: A young executive and his family needed a sophisticated room for entertaining guests that could double as a durable, functional family room. Calling attention to the architectural elements—the fireplace, windows, nooks, and bookcases—honors the Craftsman style, and then I layered in some fun, modern flair on that base.

Facing Page Bottom: The Craftsman home's dining room and entryway both make an impact in the home. The dining room needed to be as fun yet sophisticated as the living room, and I enlarged the feel of the small room through color, shapes, and pieces that draw the eye in various directions. The artwork in the entry—the inspiration for the whole house design—acts as the focal point. The wall paint emphasizes the woodwork, while the bench seat and soft furnishings transform the space into an inviting, visually appealing room with seating.

*Photographs by Chipper Hatter*

