

fixer upper FLORIDA style



Jenna and Za with Navy, 7 months, and Jensen, 3



Plucked from Joanna's playbook, an oversize clock doubles as art.

A fan couple give their Sunshine State cottage a look that's unmistakably Chip and Jo.



Displaying dishes and books in a vintage bookcase: classic *Fixer Upper*.

Metal chairs at an old pine table are 100% farmhouse fab.

Rough-hewn wood gives Florida-inspired art rustic appeal.

LIVING ROOM

First on the reno list: tearing down the walls that separated the living room from the kitchen and dining room to create one large, open hangout space. "I always like the vaulted ceilings in *Fixer Upper* houses," says Za. So the Alexanders pushed their ceilings up too, and painted the walls and trim white (Wedding Veil by Benjamin Moore). A chunky woven jute and wool-blend rug from Serena & Lily defines the living space, which includes a white slipcovered sofa from IKEA and a pair of wide leather seats from West Elm. The trunk—which serves as both coffee table and gift wrap storage—is from Boston Interiors.

Plain white couches piled with pillows are a *Fixer Upper* fave.

Black-and-white is a modern take on neutral.

A dark wood trunk adds more charm than a standard coffee table does.

Bright white walls, vintage

signs, open shelves, shiplap galore: It's all straight out of a *Fixer Upper* episode. Except Jenna and Za Alexander's home redo was all their own, inspired by binge-watching their favorite show. The obsession began after the Alexanders bought a 1950s cottage in St. Augustine, FL, that needed a major reno. While the work was being done, they stayed with friends nearby. "Our friends were really into *Fixer Upper*, and once the kids went to bed, we'd watch episode after episode," says Jenna. She and Za desperately needed ideas: The 1,200-square-foot house they were moving into had a cramped layout and dated interiors with an eau-de-cat-pee scent. "Chip would have called it the 'Hold Your Breath House,'" says Za, laughing. "It was inspiring to see him and Joanna tackle some of the same challenges we faced." Jenna's mom and stepdad, in the remodeling business, opened up the floor plan; then the couple added cozy, modern-rustic touches. "I think we'd make the *Fixer Upper* fam proud!" says Jenna.

Fluttery metal shades put a unique spin on industrial gooseneck sconces.

Casual open shelves in unstained pine show off a taupe-tinted glass subway-tile backsplash.

KITCHEN

WWCAJD? All white, with lots of shiplap, of course! Yet unlike in the houses on the show, where shiplap often lies beneath decayed drywall like buried treasure, this couple *added* it to the walls and island. For even more Florida-meets-*Fixer-Upper* airiness, the Alexanders went with open shelves and a downdraft range instead of a vent hood. Jenna further channeled her inner Joanna with a brass gooseneck faucet from Delta and brass-lined pendants from The Land of Nod above the island.

Sure, you can put shiplap on an island. It ties into the walls, creating a cohesive look.

“I’m not going to lie: I love shiplap because of all the times I’ve seen it on *Fixer Upper*!”
—Jenna

White quartz countertops and white-cushioned barstools look bright and neat.

“We kept the bedrooms small and cozy so we’d have more living space for hanging out.”
—Jenna

JENSEN'S ROOM

The bedroom's centerpiece, a painted wrought iron bed, is a relic from Jenna's childhood room. “We managed to copy that rustic look Joanna adds to homes without buying a lot of new things, since we have so many great hand-me-downs,” says Jenna. She pumped up the playfulness with glow-in-the-dark rocket ship bedding from Garnet Hill and a cardboard elephant head from a local stationery store. The tree on the wall is made with washi tape and a pom-pom garland.

Jenna's childhood bed, painted Caribbean Coast by Benjamin Moore, now belongs to her son.



Hand-painted wall art features Joanna's trademark flowers.

A vintage school chair is a sweet throwback.



NAVY'S ROOM

That's not wallpaper: Jenna, a professional artist, painted those magnolia flowers and loquat branches, both native to the neighborhood. (The base color is Gentleman's Gray by Benjamin Moore.) To offset the feminine florals, she paired them with a mod orange-and-cream polypropylene rug by Safavieh and blue-and-white-striped blackout curtains from The Land of Nod.

house tours

A picket fence and an arched arbor covered with bougainvillea give the entry a secret-garden feeling. The Gaineses would surely approve of the metal roof, which Jenna and Za added.



MASTER BEDROOM

Jenna and Za plumbed and finished the bare-bones art studio in the back of the house to morph it into a master suite, which connects to the kitchen via a long hallway. “We’re glad it’s a bit secluded,” says Jenna. Taking yet another tip from her HGTV muse, she DIYed the cushy headboard using fabric, batting, and wood. The black-and-white cotton and wool blanket is from Pendleton, and the pom-pom throw pillows are from Target. A walnut-toned mid-century-style nightstand warms up the space. Both lamps are from West Elm.

Soft gray-and-white-striped fabric feels down-home cozy.

A Jo go-to: a salvaged door (this one’s 100 years old!) with sliding hardware.

White subway tile with gray grout is a signature *Fixer Upper* move.



BATHROOM

Penny tile on the floor and subway tile on the walls upgraded a plain tub in the kids’ bathroom. “One thing I love about Joanna’s style is that it’s so simple and clean—there’s never any clutter,” Jenna says. “Having a big vanity with lots of drawers helps.” Above it, she hung a mirror that she scored at a garage sale for \$10 and painted distressed white for that timeworn *Fixer Upper* look. The botanical shower curtain is from Danica Studio.

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Fixer Upper
style?**

Don’t miss the final season of *Fixer Upper*, premiering on Tuesday, November 21, at 9 p.m. ET.

NOW GET THE LOOK



stockings

8"-tall African mud cloth Christmas stockings in black and white, \$65 each, onefinenest.com



wreath

The Original 24"-diameter magnolia wreath, \$92, themagnoliacompany.com



shower curtain

Danica Studio Secret Garden shower curtain, \$60, mockingbirdonbroad.com



trunk

Kashmir 36"W x 18"D x 18"H mango wood trunk in burned tan, \$300, bostoninteriors.com



rug

Jenner 8' x 10' jute, wool, and cotton rug in ivory and black, \$1,698, serenaandlily.com



pendant

Young House Love Farmhouse 8½"H x 16"-diameter metal pendant in clear sky, \$69, shadesoflight.com



pillows

From left: Surya Holiday 18" x 18" cotton pillow in dark green and ivory, \$55, amazon.com; Spider Rock Chindi 22" x 22" cotton pillow, \$79, pendleton-usa.com



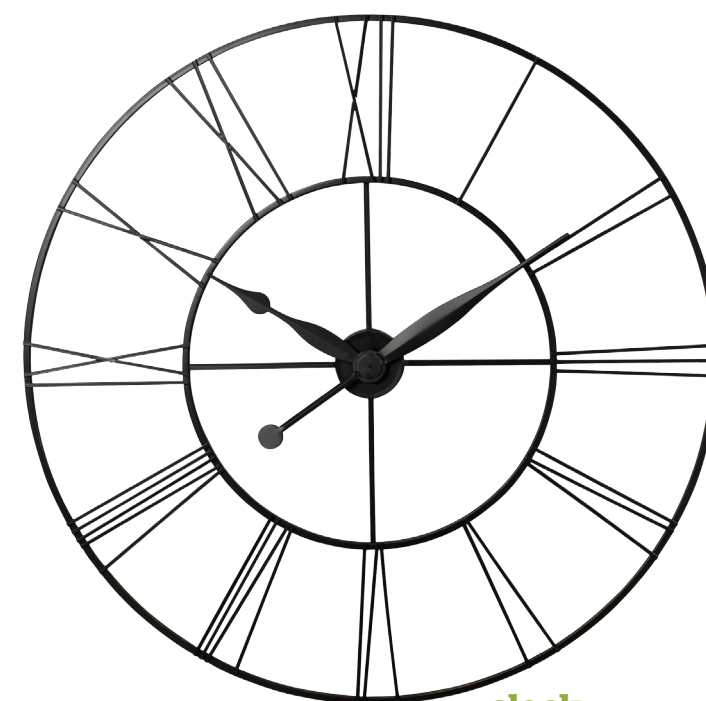
vintage sign

Large Antique 11" x 59" pinewood sign, \$70, knockonwoodsigns.com



chair

Cognac Bi Cast Leather Huxley pinewood and MDF chair, \$380, worldmarket.com



clock

Trent Austin Design Grafton 45"-diameter clock in black, \$215, wayfair.com



table

Natural Stonewash 84"W x 40"D x 30½"H acacia and rubber wood dining table in natural stonewash, \$700, pier1.com

SIGN, STOCKINGS: EMILY KATE ROEMER/STUDIO D