



Contemporary art and glam fixtures lend sophistication.



The home's architectural details and designer furnishings evoke a farmhouse on the New England coast.



The downstairs bath features a console-style sink.

# Country air



Cory and Scott Barnard's kitchen is covered in white subway tiles from floor to ceiling and includes an apron-front sink, open shelving and a working fireplace.

Photos by Terri Glanger

## Home evokes Nantucket farmhouse

By ERIN BOOKE  
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Scott and Cory Barnard have found a little piece of country in the heart of Lakewood.

Their home's gray-shingle exterior, whitewashed ceilings, screened-in porch and soothing color palette evoke a farmhouse on the New England coast, but it maintains the tight community feeling of the East Dallas neighborhood. For instance, the Barnards' three chickens have made their way to the front lawn a few times, but Scott says the neighbors don't mind. "It's so Lakewood," he has heard them say.

The house was a 2008 project by More Design + Build, whose principals Chad Dorsey and Kurt Bielawski lived down the street. Their firm conceived and constructed the three-year-old residence on the previous house's footprint.

Dorsey and Bielawski were inspired by the lot as well as a trip to Nantucket in creating the home's modern farmhouse aesthetic. "It's pairing the old with the new," says Dorsey. The home feels informal and inviting yet clean and crisp, with gray-washed oak floors and a rustic ceiling set off by modern lines, neutral walls and bright white trim.

"It's the perfect mixture of traditional and modern," Cory says. "And it's got a great flow. It felt like a happy house to me."

The ceiling treatment is a key element of the home's farmhouse feel — diagonal, whitewashed wood slats with beams that give the impression of exposed second-floor joists.

"People really like it because it feels very comfortable," says Dorsey. "Farmhouses also feel very spacious. You had large rooms, but not necessarily a lot of them."

# A modern farmhouse in Lakewood

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This fresh and open feeling is carried into the kitchen, which is covered in white subway tiles from floor to ceiling and includes an apron-front sink, open shelving, movable island and a working fireplace. And, of course, there are fresh eggs in the refrigerator.

"We wanted it to feel like a real country kitchen on a farm," Dorsey says. "Everything was exposed. All your tools and your materials were out. Everything is very honest and in front of you."

While Cory loves to cook for Scott and their two children, Jackson, 7, and Ali, 5, their favorite place to gather is the screened porch off the dining room, where they have coffee in the morning or relax in the evening while enjoying the outdoors and watching the birds.

"A lot of farmhouses did have a screened porch," says Dorsey. "They liked to have a place that brings the outside in. It's like another living room but a different experience."

While neither of the Barnards grew up in country settings, they both love being surrounded by nature and recently commissioned David Rolston Landscape Architects, whose principal also resides in Lakewood, to install a backyard pond accented by native grasses that dance in the breeze.

That sense of nature also is found indoors, where More Design + Build's designer Erica Evensen used natural materials and colors to create spaces that blend with the outdoors.

"The furnishings are very sensible and good for kids, nothing that needs to be roped off," Evensen says. "It needed to be light and airy, but we also brought in some pieces that have a lot of style and a little bit of glam."

Alabaster lamps, mirrored accent tables, shiny hardware and blue velvet on the dining room chairs add those glamorous, modern, jewelry-like touches that take the home from family time to evening entertaining. But the upholstered pieces are comfortable and easy to wipe down in case of spills.

"I like neutrals, I like comfortable," Cory says. "We have kids, so nothing is too precious. I like natural kinds of things, a lot of shells, pictures of giant bugs. We wanted something that was



The uncluttered, all-white kitchen rests the eyes.

## Lakewood Home Festival

**What:** Six homes will be on tour during the 35th Annual Home Tour and Market  
**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

**Cost:** Home tour tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 the day of the event at any of the homes or at Lakewood Elementary School, 3000 Hillbrook St., Dallas. Children 10 and under free. Proceeds benefit the Lakewood Early Childhood PTA.

**Contact:** For more information visit [www.lecpta.org](http://www.lecpta.org).



See more photos of the farmhouse interiors. [dallasnews.com/lifestyles](http://dallasnews.com/lifestyles)

comfortable and easy but matched the tone of the house."

The Barnards also enjoy photography, which they both say is the only thing they could agree on when it came to art. The two large insect photographs in the living room were taken by local photographer Chris Whalen, who is also their son's soccer coach.

As you walk to the backyard through a white stable door, a stone pathway leads you to the gravel driveway and detached garage and guest house. Just make sure you don't step on the hens, named Ahsoka, Annabelle and Peppermint.

"The house had the farmhouse aesthetic already," says Scott, "but we've filled it in a bit. It's really flowed together."



The ceiling beams and the wide-plank floors carry farmhouse details into the high-style, relaxed living room.

Photos by Terri Glander



The Barnards like to have morning coffee on the screened porch — and regroup there in early evenings, too.

The home's gray-shingle exterior is inspired by weathered seacoast houses back East. The family's hens are appropriate ornament for a modern farmhouse.