

A FRESH TAKE ON LAKE LUXURY

Designed and built by a team of experts, including renowned interior designer Scott Carpenter, custom home builder Ted Thompson, and JJ Barja of the design team at Elite Design Group, the Cornelius home of NASCAR's Denny Hamlin and his family is nothing short of a masterpiece.

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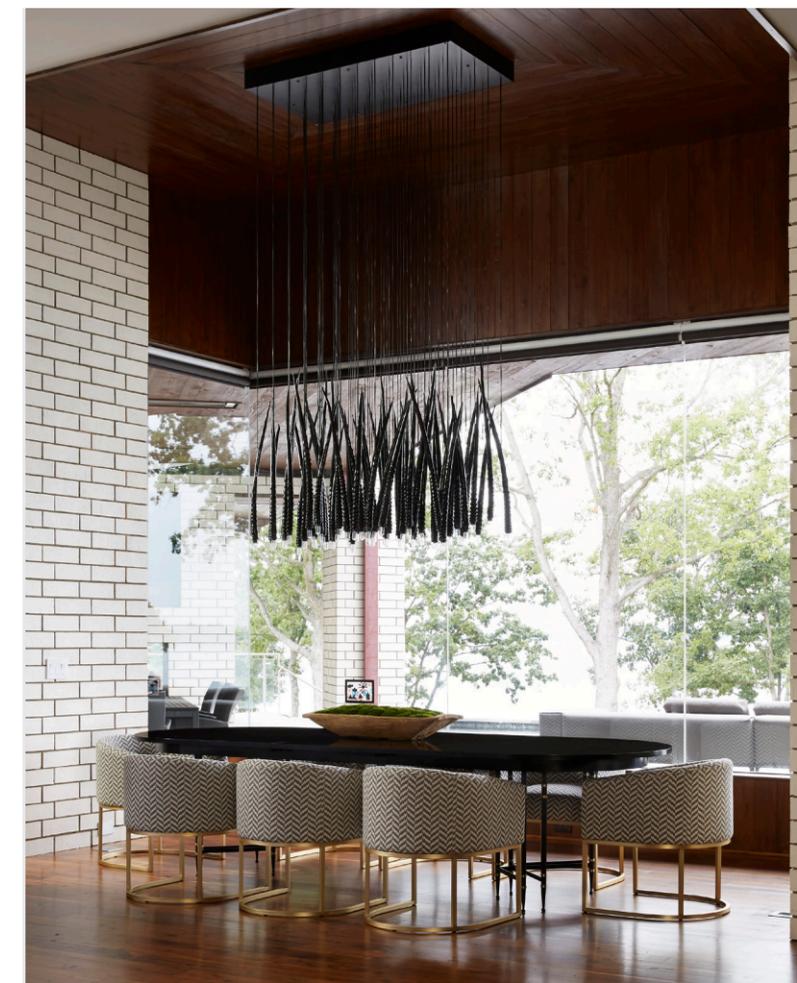
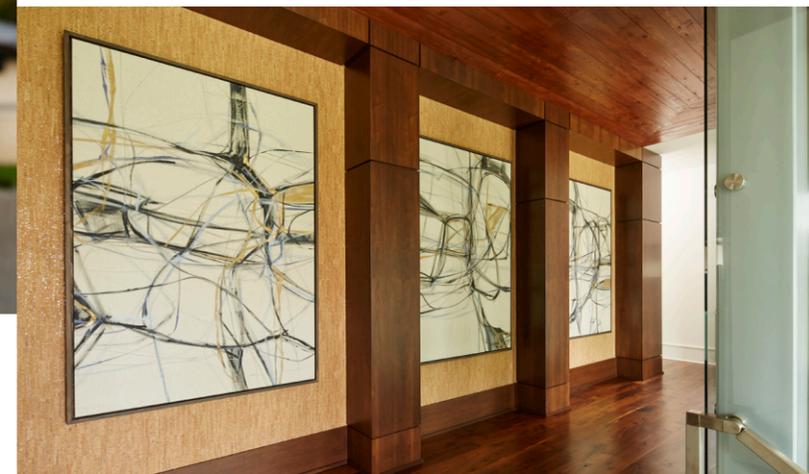
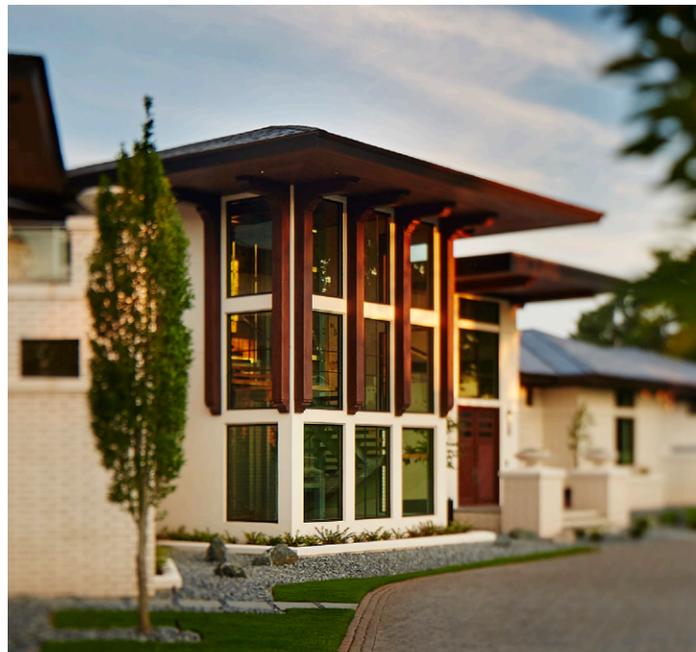


FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
 JJ Barja of Elite Design Group,
 Homeowner Denny Hamlin,
 Interior Designer Scott Carpenter,
 and Ted Thompson of Thompson
 Custom Building Group

WHEN PROFESSIONAL NASCAR DRIVER DENNY HAMLIN first approached interior designer Scott Carpenter, he had a vision of a home that could suit his lifestyle in every way imaginable. After days full of promotions and training at the track, he needed a place where his stress could seep away, but also where he could kick-off an after party. He needed a space that fostered relaxation, but didn't sacrifice design. That vision was completed with the help of designer JJ Barja of Elite Design Group and builder Ted Thompson, and now the home sits comfortably on The Peninsula in Cornelius, overlooking Lake Norman.

"I took the approach of a house built on the cliffs in California," says Carpenter. "Post-war, easy living, great for entertaining, and what a view...I call it the 'Malibu.'"

The waterfront property does indeed afford a spectacular view of the shimmering lake, especially from the custom pool that spans much of Hamlin's yard. With a house as unique as Hamlin's, however, the lake isn't the only view worth taking in. The sprawling 33,000-square-foot house, built from clean white bricks with a dark outline, offers a stark contrast to the picturesque green lawn that drapes the rest of the property. The bold exterior of the home draws the eye to the clear, elongated windows edged with a wood finish. Directly in the center of the house, those nine windows offer a glimpse inside, enticing guests to enter.





Step inside the double doors, however, and that bold, modern exterior softens ever so slightly to reveal hardwood floors and a warmer, mid-century aesthetic. But move further in, and those modern designs return as the home's first seating area comes into view. With floor-to-ceiling windows and the exterior white brick, natural light floods the room from all angles and accentuates the unique textures of the room's gray and white furniture.

"We have a very clean palette," says Carpenter. "We used white for our overall canvas, dark woods—walnut and such—for the floors, eaves, and beams. We also used several wall coverings and tile to give you texture and pattern."

As guests move into the home's entertainment area—complete with a regulation-sized basketball court, a full-service bar, and a two-lane bowling alley, just to name a few inclusions—those warm tones come back, inviting them to relax and enjoy.

"There's definitely a lot of fun features in this house," admits builder Ted Thompson. "I haven't built too many homes with a two-lane bowling alley with lockers and bowling shoes, a golf simulator, racing simulator, dock with a helicopter pad above..."



NASCAR's Denny Hamlin stands proudly in his trophy room. The superstar team of interior designer Scott Carpenter, builder Ted Thompson, and designer JJ Barja welcome us into the home.

The list goes on, exemplifying the home's pairing of entertainment and elegance, of modern designs and a homey aesthetic. At its heart, the Hamlin house is a multitude of contrasts that boasts an ability to move seamlessly among them all. Guests can partake in an upscale party held in the chic sitting room, then take a tour through the softer, art-lined hallways to the home's see-through wine room. Finish things off with a night of fun and games, or sit outside and take in the breathtaking view of the quiet lake. Like Denny Hamlin himself, the home is versatile, unique, and ready for any occasion—even a helicopter landing.

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