

# BUILT TO LAST

*Time stands still in all the best ways at this barn-inspired Tennessee retreat.*

**FARMHOUSE FAVORITE!**  
WHETHER REAL OR FAUX, TAXIDERMISTRY IS A NATURAL SELECTION FOR COUNTRY DECOR.

**HORNIN**  
The one-of-a-kind antler chair may take the space by the horns, but plush elements such as the leather sofa and slipcovered wingbacks balance the bold look.



If this rural Tennessee retreat had an official motto it might just be “shop local.” Owned by country music super star Ronnie Dunn (famed as one half of the Grammy-winning duo Brooks & Dunn) it showcases materials and designs native to the southern farmland on which it sits. “From the stacked stone fireplace to the vertical plank walls, this house features straight-from-the-source elements—indigenous materials crafted by handymen and carpenters from the area,” explains Rachel Halvorson, a Nashville-based interior designer who collaborated with Dunn on the home. “There’s a rawness to it that shirks trends in favor of authenticity.” While that emphasis on the handmade and locally-sourced, gives the home a one-with-its-surroundings appeal,

**HITTING A HIGH NOTE**

Country music superstar Ronnie Dunn, here with wife Janine, worked with local carpenters to design his off-the-charts, barn-inspired Tennessee retreat.



**TRIPLE THREAT**

The kitchen island features not one, but three, hardworking countertop surfaces: limestone on the main work zone, stainless still

**FARMHOUSE FAVORITE!**  
IRON WORK, LIKE THAT ON THE TOWERING LIGHT FIXTURE, ADDS INDUSTRIAL EDGE.



**HALL PASS**

The upstairs hall could have easily been overlooked, but has style in spades thanks to custom Z-brace doors and a historic American flag.



**STAYING GROUNDED**

The home is a showplace for can-take-a-beating materials. Case in point: the 12-inch-wide white oak plank floors secured square-head nails.

COME ON IN!

it makes for rooms that feel a little, well, raw. "The bones of the home skew masculine. As a place built for extended family to come relax, it needed a feminine softness to balance the look," says Rachel. To add said softness, she turned to upholstered furnishings (slipcovered armchairs, tufted headboards) and textured accents (natural fiber rugs, linen curtain panels, plush bedding.) Taken together, the pieces envelope the rooms in inviting warmth. (Yes, even the main living area which, with twenty-five-foot high ceilings, could have easily gone austere.) "Nothing in this house draws too much attention to itself," explains Rachel. "It all subtly works together to make you feel at home." ■

**FARMHOUSE FAVORITE!**  
Z-BRACE DETAILING TAKES IS A CLASSIC BARN MOTIF WITH GRAPHIC, MODERN APPEAL.



ONE THE ROPES

When it was discovered a member of the construction crew was a master rope weaver, his talent was put to use crafting unique finishing touches like the towel holder in the



AFTER DARK

Reminiscent of the signature black barns in neighboring Kentucky, the home features a dark exterior stain that sets the sky and scenery in sharp relief.



OLD BARN DOOR HARDWARE GETS A SECOND ACT AS A GRITTY PHOTO LEDGE.

SOFT PLACE TO LAND

Throughout the home, the roughewn surfaces are contrasted with inviting textiles like this linen headboard and voluminous