



MODERN LUXURY

# THE WOODLANDS

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# SUBURBAN SPLENDOR

The Woodland's queen of interior design transforms suburban dwellings into citylike quarters.

By Nickole Kerner Bobley  
Photography by Carl Mayfield

Since 2009, interior designer Melanie King ([melanickingdesigns.com](http://melanickingdesigns.com)) has been putting her artistic stamp on the most luxurious homes of The Woodlands and Houston. With the arrival of the Inspire Film Festival and the Glade Cultural Arts Center, The Woodlands is experiencing a major arts boom. As a result, King has recently seen changes in clients' attitudes toward interior design.

"I definitely see a shift. Now The Woodlands is to Houston as Fort Worth is to Dallas: an albeit smaller but sophisticated sister city, no longer just a suburb," King says. "This translates to bolder design choices by the people I'm working with."

Originally from Clear Lake, King graduated from the interior design program Texas A&M. Her overarching design philosophy rests on a neutral color palette across foundational furniture pieces and texture pops from drapery, wall art and sculpture choices.

"I enjoy shopping for art with my clients," says King. "The personality of the home really emerges here and often influences my final touches for the home's aesthetic."

For a recent project in Creekside Village, King helped an empty-nester couple embrace their new 4,800-square-foot Toll Brothers custom home. First, she designed a linear fireplace and wall of stone in the two-story living room to set the groundwork for a contemporary mood throughout the home. In the kitchen, she chose a soft gray-and-white color palette, a mosaic backsplash and sharp architectural details. Both the table and chairs are from James Craig Furnishings and were custom stained to tie in with the fabric valance and living room elements. The study, which opens onto a courtyard, brings in soft light year-round, so King went with neutral layering and had the bookcase stained a deep gray to reflect the metal accents.

As The Woodlands celebrates its 45th anniversary, King's work has seen a massive remodeling focus. She continues to push the design envelope, transforming her once sleepy suburb into a cosmopolitan city, one home at a time.



Melanie King's latest project involved remodeling a 4,800-square-foot Toll Brothers home in Creekside Village for an empty-nester couple.