



Filled with visual and tactile texture, the three-story staircase is a balance of traditional and contemporary design. Photograph by James Haefner.

ARCHITECTURAL ASCENT

When planning this staircase, the designers say the original idea skewed a bit too far to the contemporary side of the spectrum. “The first model was an open-riser stairway, which wouldn’t fit this house,” Runsat says. To bring the design back in line with a traditional aesthetic, they softened hard angles and brought in more curves. “I found an excellent inspiration image that had spindles with a big loop pattern, so together with Michelle and Chris, we searched through catalogs and websites looking for a spindle or a picket that pleased all three of us,” Runsat explains. “Something that didn’t feel too contemporary or traditional, that had some fun to it.”

A bouclé stair runner has raised knots that the designers say reference the baluster knuckles, tying together the design elements. “We try to find similarities between the materials and designs, creating little ‘easter eggs’ that you may not notice at first glance, but you appreciate the texture and overall design,” Runsat says.