ARTISTIC FLAIR

One of the priorites was to accommodate the homeowner's extensive art collection, which included several large pieces. Plans were drawn up allocating walls for the works of art and "the architects put a free-standing wall at the end of the family room to display art on both sides," Schumacher explains. The homeowners were looking for a streamlined floor plan that was efficient in both use and scale. "A house that lives small and wasn't excessive." Roby says. "We didn't want the architecture, furniture, and design to be a backdrop for our art," the homeowner adds.

Intelligent planning includes a built-in niche on the wall behind the sofa to avoid bumps as one rounds the corner. Another example includes the globe lamp on the table that plugs into the floor. It was chosen so that views of the artwork are never blocked, keeping the art as the primary focus. "Our goal is to always bring down some light so that there are other sources apart from the ceiling." Schumacher says. "The new home has a better flow and taller ceilings—we live differently today than we did when this house was built in the 50s."