



HABITAT

## The Color **Factory**

Designer Regan Baker helps focus a couple whose loves include industrial relics, bold hues, and TV.

BY LEILANI MARIE LABONG

ebecca Fullmer and Nico Cabrera fancy themselves DIYers and rightfully so, having tackled a decade's worth of renovation projects in their 2.400-square-foot Menlo Park fixer-upperfrom small-stakes wallpaper removal to the more formidable task of vaulting the ceilings in two bedrooms. "Sometimes I can't believe the neighbors still speak to us," Fullmer says.

The gathering spaces, however, proved too ambitious for the couple's homegrown skills. The nearly forsaken kitchen was barely functional: An old gas oven had a tendency to spring dangerous leaks, and ad hoc two-by-fours shouldered the microwave. The living room felt like a bunker, with its oppressive eight-foot ceilings and distinct lack of natural light. "You could sit in that space and not know if it was day or night," says Fullmer, formerly a web marketing writer at Google. With their circadian rhythms at stake, the couple took a sledgehammer to the walls one night (or was it day?), swinging cathartically. "We had to live with jagged Sheetrock and exposed wires for a while," Fullmer says, "but at least we had light!"

To help them finish what they had started, the couple hired San Francisco designer Regan Baker. They'd previously been delighted by Baker's Little Roamers installation at the 2014 San Francisco Decorator Showcase: The safari-themed kids' room featured a custom denim tent, graphic wallpaper of wild things a-marching, and stuffed animals extruding from every nook and cranny. "We knew we needed Regan's style and vision to shake things up," Fullmer says. She furnished Baker with a list of adjectives to describe an ideal home, among them "open," "functional," "inviting," "unexpected," and "feline-friendly."