

HOT OFF THE PRESS....

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Up in the Barn

An artist takes DIY to a new level

TRACY HOLLERMAN



Photos by Emily Sidoti

When Shannon and Mike Carr purchased their 1834 Cape-style house in Fairfield, to say it “needed work” was an understatement. “It was in foreclosure,” Shannon explains, “and there were rotten tree trunks in the basement holding up house!” After shoring up the foundation, the Carr’s first project was adding a back patio. “I laid all the bricks myself,” Shannon remembers. The patio turned out to be a catalyst for many more DIY projects in the coming years. Although this self-taught handy-gal is not your average weekend warrior. As a Massachusetts College of Art class valedictorian, Shannon always had an eye for design, and worked as the creative director at Nicole Miller for nearly 10 years before having children. “I always had an interest in design, starting in high school,” Shannon says. “My years working for a high end designer like