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Once chosen, decorators in the annual Hampton Designer

Showhouse are told to imagine what they would do inside the ultimate summer home, says Tony Manning, producer. At this year's sprawling, newly built Bridgehampton manse, where the event opens with a gala this weekend, the designers offer lots of interpretations. At once, the season is modern, dreamy, fun, dramatic, tranquil and sophisticated.

Here's a look at what the 2011 designers have done — and how you might re-create a look or two in your getaway.

the 'ultimate' summer decor

Ideas from the Hampton Designer Showhouse

UPDATED VINTAGE

Port Washington designer Keith Baltimore's guest room freshens up the midcentury modern look. Yes, there are pieces from the '50s, including a reupholstered sectional with restored brass and a Formica center table. But most of the elements of the room are merely inspired by the era. A period slat chair roused Baltimore to design the room's centerpiece — a walnut king-size bed that takes up an entire wall of the

9-foot-high room. And that boiled-wool orange pillow? He says he had it made to look like a retro shower cap.

DIY tip: For more "Mad Men" style, go for the collected look, he suggests. The top of the cherry antique dresser combines items from his antique box collection with new pieces, all beneath a 1950s French painting done on an Atomic Age-shaped canvas. "Take new stuff and mix it with what you have," he says.

