

Call Her Daddy's Alex Cooper: Peek Inside Her Serene Country Retreat in the Heart of LA

Cooper and fiancé Matt Kaplan tapped Balton Design to turn the Colonial Revival ranch into a timeless, understated home perfect for hosting

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When advising the millions of listeners of her sex and relationship podcast *Call Her Daddy*, Alex Cooper never recommends overlooking incompatibility. But when Cooper's partner in life and work, film producer Matt Kaplan, came across a home that required keeping an open mind, her stances on first impressions, gut instincts, and compatibility had to be reconsidered.

The house in question, a 1930s Colonial Revival ranch, had undergone several renovations, most recently one with an industrial meets glam aesthetic that was accented by faux brick, vinyl tufting, and other synthetic materials. Cooper was ready to swipe left, but Kaplan saw the potential: Despite being minutes from downtown LA, the home was secluded, on meadowy acreage, with panoramic views of nature reminiscent of Cooper's Pennsylvania upbringing.

"I was a little overwhelmed by how much of an undertaking it would be, because [the house] is so cute, but it's so old," says Cooper. The look was a mix of modern and

home] was not our style whatsoever,” says Cooper. Though she may be a novice when it comes to design renovations, the podcaster’s career trajectory has had its own share of reconstruction. Since launching *Call Her Daddy* in 2018, the show has grown to encompass a holistic perspective on mental health and relationships, with guests ranging from industry experts to A-listers like John Mayer, Miley Cyrus, and John Legend. Just as transformation has meant greater success for *Call Her Daddy* (it now ranks as the top podcast for women on Spotify), the home’s necessary overhaul had a silver lining. “That ended up being the beauty [of it],” says Cooper. “It was so far from our taste that it allowed us to tailor every single room to our liking.”

To lead the renovation process, the couple hired Lindsay Balton of [Balton Design](#), whose refined yet livable California style resonated with their vision of “a homey take on a wellness retreat, something calm, inviting, and most importantly, comfortable,” explains Cooper. “[Our] lives are so crazy with work, so home is our sanctuary.” And of course, nothing could be off-limits for the family dogs, Henry and Bruce.

Balton began by taking a closer look at how the property interacted with its surroundings. “We spent a lot of time puncturing holes all over the walls,” she says of the expansive window additions that brighten the entryway, kitchen, living room, and bar and highlight the verdant grounds beyond. The dark, industrial materials were stripped away and replaced with earthy materials like limestone, aged oak, and patinated metals for a more approachable, enduring feel. A neutral palette balances the lush landscape outdoors, while richly tactile fabrics and a sprinkling of antique pieces throughout help soften the interiors. “While the lines of everything are quite clean, the materials have life in them, which helps keep everything more grounded,” says Balton. “No room is too precious to actually spend time in.”

And that they do. A homebody at heart, Cooper has gladly grown into the role of host. “Sitting around a table with a good meal and conversing with our friends is the epitome of coziness for me,” she says. Of course, the quiet moments reserved just for the couple are cherished too. Like an evening this past spring when Kaplan got down on one knee under a wisteria-covered arbor in the backyard after sending Cooper on a home scavenger hunt of special moments from throughout their relationship. “To go through each room, seeing the life and the work we’ve built together and the love that we’ve poured into the home, to then lead down to the backyard covered in candles... It was magical,” Cooper recalls.



1/16

“I go out on the swings with my coffee in the morning and relax and think, Wow, this is California living,” says Cooper, pictured here with their dog Henry on the custom rope swing upholstered in [Janus](#) et Cie fabric and No.9 Thompson fabrics.



Art: © Otis Jones

2/16

In the entry, Otis Jones's *Sort of Pink with Black and Dirty Circle* hangs above an antique French console table sourced from [Eneby Home](#). Integrating worn, rustic pieces into the home pair nicely with pendant lights by Rose Uniacke. Vintage Malayer runner from Lawrance of La Brea.



3/16

“When you walk into our home, you will not feel out of place in sweats,” says Cooper. “If anything, you’ll blend in because there are so many blankets and cozy textures.” In the living room, a de Le Cuona linen covers the custom sofas, which Cooper sit-tested during the fabrication process to assure the depth was of ultimate comfort for movie nights. [Lawson-Fenning](#) ottomans upholstered in a [Rogers and Goffigon](#) fabric perch next to the Stahl & Band coffee table, while the shearling armchair is a favorite spot for dogs Henry and Bruce.



Art: © Benoît Platéus/signs and symbols, New York

4/16

Vaughan sconces frame Belgian artist Benoit Plateus's *Brigade des Moeurs*, which was sourced from Creative Art Partners



5/16

Between the elevated kitchen—outfitted with a [Wolf](#) range, [Waterworks](#) fixtures, [Eco Outdoor](#) limestone floors, and custom millwork by [PSS Design Cult](#)—and the on-site vegetable garden and chicken coop, take-out connoisseurs Cooper and Kaplan are slowly learning their ways around the kitchen. “Matt and I were very low in cooking ability—we didn’t have any experience. But we are constantly picking fresh tomatoes and basil and broccoli, and you’ve gotta do something with it,” says Cooper of her new skills. “I’m not going to lie. I’m quite impressed with myself.”



6/16

A custom banquette dressed in de Le Cuona linen and [RH](#) dining chairs pull up to a Nickey Kehoe dining table in the sun-drenched breakfast nook.



7/16

A few years after inking one of the biggest exclusivity deals in Spotify history, Cooper recently announced the launch of her own podcast network, the Unwell Network, which will cater to Gen Z listeners. At home in her limewash-coated dining room, she leans against a custom dining table with Stahl & Band dining chairs in a de Le Cuona velvet. A pendant from the Urban Electric & Co. hangs overhead.



8/16

Awash in Portola Paints' Guru limewash, the office powder room features a hand-carved stone basin from [Le Maison Francaise Antiques](#), Waterworks fixtures, and sconces by [Adam Otlewski](#).



Art: Lisa Law/Morrison Hotel Gallery

9/16

“[Matt and I] fell in love in London drinking whiskey together, so we always said we needed to recreate a dark bar with whiskey,” says Cooper of the home’s detached bar, evocatively designed in a [Rose Tarlow](#) wallpaper, vintage Italian sconces by [Tobia Scarpa](#), and a custom bar in Gris De Savoie marble. “It has a different feel than the rest of the home—like we’re going out on a date night [but] we’re just going out to our bar together.”



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11/16

“My closet is my favorite place on earth,” says Cooper. The blush pink interior, coated in Portola Paints’ Angels Landing and adorned with an Urban Electric Co. light, has been known to host business calls and podcast editing sessions. “Matt will come home from work and be like, ‘Did you even leave our bedroom today?’”



12/16

In the primary bath, a custom double vanity in aged oak offers a built-in glam desk for hair and makeup styling. Waterworks fixtures, Urban Electric Co. sconces, and an ottoman upholstered in a Rosemary Hallgarten alpaca bouclé accent the space.





13/16

A richly veined Fantastico Arni marble frames the tub and shower in the primary bath, which opens to the second-floor balcony. Bespoke aged brass shower doors play off of the Waterworks fixtures.



14/16

On a typical weekend, Cooper and Kaplan are hosting friends or family in one of the home's multiple outdoor spaces, watching a sports game in the covered corridor, or having a drink at the poolside bar. "It's a very dynamic place, where you can be hosting in so many different ways, which is my dream," says Cooper.



15/16

Goldendoodles Henry and Bruce join Alex on loungers from [Teak Warehouse](#). To emphasize the sunny spot, the couple worked with the home's original groundskeeper, [Diamond Landscaping](#), to refresh the surroundings, including adding hedges to the pool surround.





16/16

In the pool bath, Waterworks plumbing adds polish to aged accents, from the Neolithic-style sink from nearby Big Daddy's Antiques to the vintage Italian rattan mirror from [Panoplie](#).