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# AT HOME

Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Cape Cod

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Fall / Winter 2017  
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FRESH  
**LAUNDRY ROOMS**

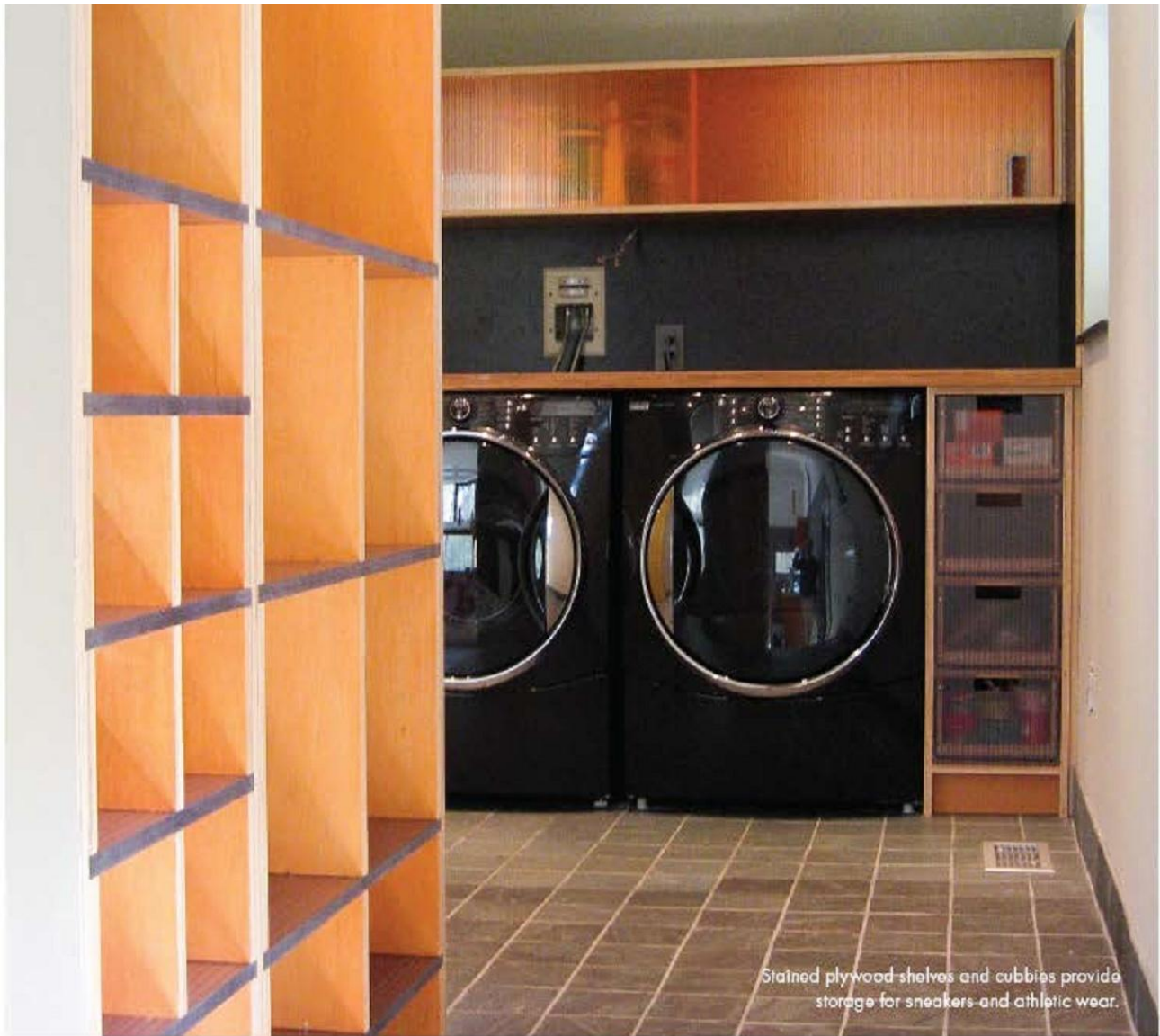
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**COMPLIMENTARY**





Stained plywood shelves and cubbies provide storage for sneakers and athletic wear.

### FOR AN ATHLETIC COUPLE

A decorative aesthetic did play a role in a combination mud/laundry room that Jill Neubauer of Jill Neubauer Architects, Inc. designed for an active couple.

"They wanted a fresh, modern, high-functioning room, but it also needed to be good-looking because it's visible from the kitchen," says Neubauer. "The couple are dedicated athletes and a well laid out mud/laundry room is important to their lifestyle. After an intense workout, they enter the house through this area, which was originally two closed-off rooms. Now, the space is all integrated with nice flow into the adjacent powder room and kitchen."

For this point of entry from all kinds of weather, using resilient materials was fundamental. A Vermont slate floor and Formica countertop with an exposed plywood edge are "neat, fresh and indestructible," says Neubauer. Stained plywood shelves and cubbies provide storage for running shoes and other athletic wear. Orange accents on the plastic cabinet fronts tie into the kitchen cabinetry.

"We also wanted to be able to screen the view at times," Neubauer explains. "We hung a curtain of gorgeous thick cashmere wool from a track on the ceiling so that they can close off the laundry area."

Neubauer describes the project as "one of the most interesting" she's done.

"It looks simple, raw and straightforward," she says. "But there were challenges - how the plastic pieces slide into [the] wood and drilling European hinges into the plastic of the sink base, for example. When everything is so visible, you can't hide anything. The details have to be right. In the end, I think we achieved the fresh, modern, fun and functional space the couple wanted."

Each designer emphasizes that well-designed laundry rooms come in all shapes and sizes, and solutions can be created to suit a range of budgets. Since laundry is a fact of life, why not make this task pleasant and efficient? 