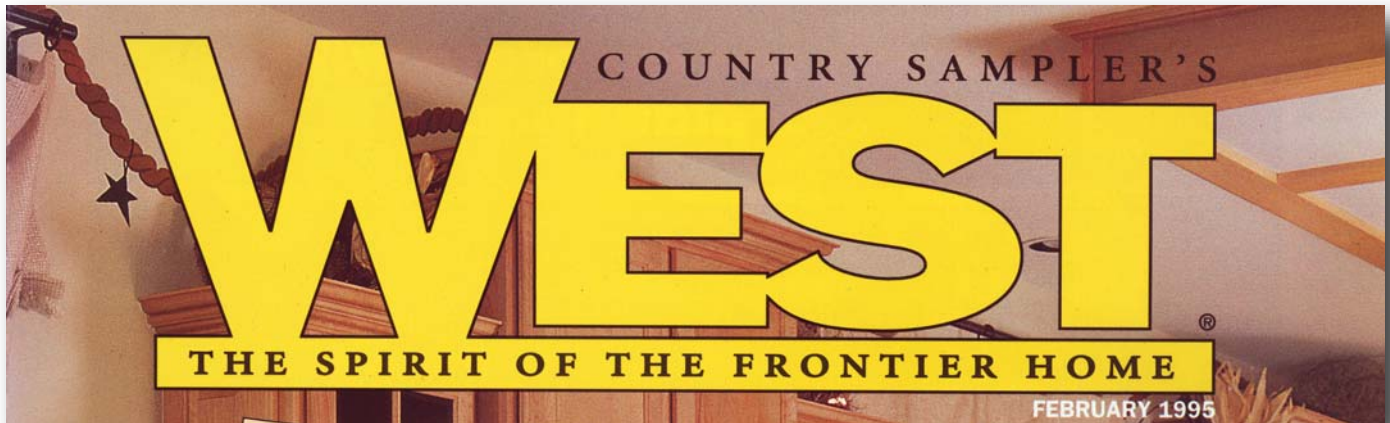


The Wakefield Ranch

featured in:



Bedrooms for Buckaroos

Happy Campers

The family lives in the city, so they wanted a whole new atmosphere at their second home. They wanted their kids to feel like they were going to camp.



Better than a week at camp, these barrack-style quarters provide wide-open spaces for playing, sleeping, and washing up. Designed to look as old as the hills, the rustic pre-schoolers' compound houses a comfortable playroom, a dormitory-style bedroom (above) and a bath designed for a gang of kids (left)





When architects Jon Gunson and partner Keith Birchler set about designing the house, their main goal was to build a new house that had authentic ranch-house character and looked as if it could have been built 100 years ago. They worked with a variety of rustic and rough-hewn materials throughout the house, from the kitchen to kids' rooms.

Locally cut spruce and pine were used for beam and log work in the kids' bedroom. Barn wood fashions the walls in the playroom and bathroom and the shutters near the bunks. Carpenters used No. 3 pine for the floors because of its gnarly and knotty characteristics.

This lower-level playroom, bedroom, and bath provide rugged camp-style quarters for two spirited young boys, ages 3 and 5. Like a week at camp, the boys' visits to their Breckenridge, Colorado, home keep them braving new adventures-many right inside their singular compound.

The playroom-situated at the bottom of the stairs descending from the kitchen-is the hub of the dynamic duo's sleeping and play areas. The homeowners placed the room within view of the kitchen to keep the kids in sight, and, more importantly, so the kids would know their parents were nearby.

There's no waiting in the bath-three sinks purchased from a used-plumbing-fixture yard line up dormitory style. Chipped and damaged bricks were recycled into a century-old-looking floor, and carved tree-branch wall hooks provide hanging space for towels.