

THRASHERS 360

A COMPLETE LOOK INSIDE THE LIFESTYLE
OF THE ATLANTA THRASHERS

AT HOME WITH
**KARI
LEHTONEN**
32

SLAVA KOZLOV'S
WINE REVIEW

GARNET EXELBY'S
FASHION TIPS

S. E. DIVISION
BREAKDOWN

2009 WINTER, VOLUME: 01, ISSUE: 01
ATLANTATHRASHERS.COM



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DOMICILE

CHILLIN' IN KARI LEHTONEN'S CRIB

Photos courtesy of Windward Photography.



For Thrashers goaltender Kari Lehtonen, work is very intense. His typical day consists of large bodies, waving sticks, razor-sharp skates and speeding pucks all converging on him. So where does he go to get away from it all?

Lehtonen has created his personal oasis in a four-bedroom, 4,000 square foot home close to Buckhead in Brookhaven. Lehtonen purchased the home in 2006 for the great location and private backyard that featured a swimming pool and hot tub. His vision was to create a home more in keeping with his European taste uncluttered yet inviting from the 15 year old confused Cape Cod style.

With the help of design manager Jill Weber, CR and Distinctive Remodeling Solutions, Lehtonen spent six months designing, renovating and decorating the house to create a space that is truly unique, and his own. The end result is a very modern, clean and immaculately decorated house which belies both the owner's age and occupation.

The house has a casual elegance that includes many of the trappings one might expect with a 25-year old resident, bar, billiard table, video-game room, however, it has all been incorporated with tasteful flair and style.

Little about the residence points to the fact that the owner is a professional athlete - no trophies, memorabilia or equipment can be found. The NHL goalie himself is the only thing related to the sport that can be found. Upon touring, one might assume it belonged to an established professional in the



business, legal or medical field - not one who dons pads and stands in front of 100-mile-per-hour slap shots.

The main area's open floor-plan is well suited for hosting parties and entertaining family and friends, but also serves as a comfortable place for a quiet meal or relaxing in front of the television. The area boasts a state-of-the-art kitchen, which has been highlighted in numerous design publications connected to a contemporary living room dining room.

The second level of the home, which is a continuation of the modern, uncluttered design, contains the master bedroom, guest bedroom and office. The master bedroom, with an adjoining bathroom, is a very stylish, comfortable space that features a unique overhead lighting system and a glass partition between the two.

The basement floor of the three-story house houses his garage and ever changing car collection. It includes the laundry room, guest room and bath.

Once the dust settled and Lehtonen moved in he has been very proud to have a sanctuary that he feels fits his style - one that is far away from the big men with sticks and sharp skates trying to pounce on him. ■



Did you know?
Kari's nickname is "Kärppä" which is Finnish for "weasel".