

# ELLE

## DESIGN IDEAS TO STEAL FROM THE HIPPEST HOTEL IN NYC

*From its industrial fittings to its warm wood-frame beds, this mashup of Copenhagen, Seville and NYC has style (and decor inspiration) to spare.*

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Some hotels just have “it,” that quality that makes you never want to pack your bags and head back home. The decor is on point, the beds are beyond comfortable and the whole atmosphere is relaxing and luxurious.

Take, for example, the Boro Hotel, which welcomed its first guests to Long Island City -- the up-and-coming neighborhood in Queens, New York -- this summer. With its pared down, yet elegant interiors and a color palette that’s instantly welcoming, this boutique hotel stands out in New York City’s cluttered hospitality scene.

The hotel was designed by Grzywinski + Pons, who focused on creating a cohesive and warm aesthetic, all the while “embracing the rawness of the project’s bones,” designer Matthew Grzywinski explained to ELLEDecor.com.



So maybe you can't stay at Boro forever, but you can take the stylish hotel's look with you. Here's how:

**1. Embrace the bones of your home.** According to Grzywinski, you should not only accept the existing materials and flow in your home, but actually put it to use. At the Boro, that meant letting the building's concrete frame become one of the principal design elements. For you, that could mean leaving exposed brick untouched or letting your home's architectural detail inspire the rest of your design.



## 2. Make decor work double duty.

At the Boro, several furnishings function in more than one way. “The stair rails also act as table tops for the eat-in cafe and the large bookshelf also functions as a tripartite screen and a banquette,” Grzywinski said. Finding decor that you love, but that can also be put to use in multiple ways is one of the easiest ways to create a space that is functional and well-designed. And, it’s a must if your home is on the smaller side.



**3. Use real materials.** Grzywinski cautions against choosing items with value that only goes skin deep. Sure, they may look pretty, but they don’t have the same integrity as the humble materials, such as the concrete, wood, leather, and cork used in the Boro. Plus, they’re versatile, which “leaves plenty of option to create a diverse range of colors, textures and temperatures that suit your taste and your space,” Grzywinski says.

**4. Experiment with textures.** Concrete and cinder blocks may conjure up images of cold, harsh interiors, but the Boro incorporates them throughout the design to thrilling effect. Grzywinski explained that they were able to elevate the industrial materials by layering in other warmer elements like hand-scraped oak floors, painted pallet wood wainscoting and soffits, leather, cork and sisal.

But above all else, Grzywinski said the key to really achieving the same style as the Boro Hotel, is “authenticity.”