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When Jeffrey Kalinsky first visited the raw space in New York's Meatpacking District that would become his fashion-forward *stare*, Jeffrey, he knew right away that the location would work. Never mind that it was the late 1990s, when the neighborhood was still relatively rough-and-tumble, long before the High Line. Kalinsky made a handshake deal with the landlord on the spot.

He had the same gut reaction when he first saw the West Village townhouse he bought in 2005, after searching for a home for two years. The 1965 modernist structure with a stone facade immediately appealed to his midcentury aesthetic. What's more, the nearby cobblestone streets and waterfront reminded him of his hometown of Charleston, South Carolina. "Most of my friends were living in high-rises with fabulous views," Kalinsky says, "but I wanted my home to be a retreat from the city. I wanted it to feel like I was living in a cocoon."

A gut renovation took him a couple of years. He kept the footprint the same but got rid of a garage and created a new roof terrace. Inside, old floors were replaced with white terrazzo. Gradually, the interiors started to take on the airy lightness and minimalism that Kalinsky respects in so many of the visionary fashion designers he champions. "Jil Sander once told me that everything is about proportion and scale," he says. "That's why I fell in love with this townhouse: It's not enormous, but the proportions are right."

Well, most of them anyway. Early on, Kalinsky scrapped his original plan to turn the entire top floor into a guest room because he realized he doesn't really enjoy having houseguests. Instead, he used half of that space for a massive walk-in, windowed dressing

PRECISION TAILORING

Retail guru Jeffrey Kalinsky has always championed clean-lined, minimalist fashion, so it's no surprise that he sticks to his aesthetic principles when renovating his West Village townhouse

TEXT by BOB MORRIS · PHOTOGRAPHY by DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN
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In the living room of Jeffrey Kalinsky's West Village townhouse, which was designed by DD Allen of Pierce Allen, the leather sofas are by Annabelle Selldorf, and the 1959 Helge Vestergaard Jensen chairs from Wyeth are upholstered in a Missoni fabric; the cabinetry is custom, the circa-1970 floor lamp is by Stilnovo, and the rug is cashmere. **FACING PAGE:** Kalinsky on his roof terrace. For details, see Resources.