

John Meola demanded the best, which meant his dream house took nearly half a decade to build. His punch list included 60 tons of structural steel, four boilers that can blast a scorching one million BTUs, and 16,000 square feet of Brazilian cherry (1,000 more than he wound up needing; the leftovers come with the house). Four full years went into the masonry work. He spent \$100,000 on his tennis court, flying in the company that builds them for Martina Hingis. "I built it with love, not to sell," he says. "But when it sells, I'm going to Disney World."



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(WESTON)

## EASY STREET

One in four Weston residents is a millionaire. In this stretch of town, everyone is.

The money in Weston—and there's a ton of it—tends to be of the newer variety. Along with neighboring Lincoln, the town has the densest concentration of millionaires in the area. Boston's money managers, lawyers, and doctors started flocking here in the '80s, lured by wide-open spaces, verdant woodlands, and a bit of privacy. If all that sounds inviting, John Meola has the place for you: his \$8.99 million estate (above). "You may not see your neighbors because the lots are so big," says Meola, dentist to the Celtics, "but you get to know them." You probably know them already, actually: *Boston Herald* publisher Pat Purcell owns a \$2.7 million house across the street (right). A few doors down is a \$2.1 million colonial (far right) bought and sold by investment hotshot Leo Esposito. Not far away, hedge fund superstar Jim Pallotta is building a \$19 million, 27-acre compound. House hunters who look in this neighborhood don't bother with mortgage calculations. "In this profile," says broker Michael Carucci of ERA Boston, "the buyer just writes the check."

