

RESIDE

ROOM ROUNDUP

OPEN AIR

AS BEAUTIFUL OUTSIDE AS INSIDE

BY MARY THURMAN YUHAS

ith the advent of automated doors and windows that pocket to create seamless indoor/outdoor spaces, chic durable fabrics, designer-crafted furniture, state-of-the-art outdoor kitchens, and remote-controlled screens that protect against bugs and the elements, homeowners are making certain their outside seating areas are as beautiful as those inside.

Local home builders and interior designers confirm their clients want a maintenance-free oasis apart from the traditional living quarters where they can entertain, watch the big game, or just relax. Here are five spectacular outdoor spaces shared by local interior designers.





BETHANY O'NEIL INTERIOR DESIGN

The outdoor living area in this cheery residence on Doctors Pass in Naples looks out on a classic all-white pool area and beyond to the dock on the bay. Green Bahama shutters, where palm tree fronds peek playfully through the windows, reinforce the tropical composition.

Inspired by her clients' upbeat personalities, Bethany O'Neil, owner and principal designer at Bethany O'Neil Interior Design, selected happy patterns in vibrant colors for the home's interior and exterior. Outdoor curtains—once common and now a novelty—add privacy, a touch of mystique, and a little romance. Three cushy sofas stationed around a large center coffee table invite guests to sit and stay awhile.

"This outdoor area is the primary space for entertaining in the home.

Just beyond the porch is another large area that seats up to 12 people for a dinner party. The clients love to entertain, spending the majority of their time in these outdoor rooms," states O'Neil. (bethanyoneilcom)