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## Before & After: Six Rooms Take On A New Life and Luxe

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### { bringing up the rear }

Several years ago, up-and-coming designer Edward Maestri, Associate AIA, who works for a large architectural firm, found a great deal on a 1,028-square-foot house built in 1951 in Lakewood. The New Orleans native thought the small space wouldn't be too much of a problem; he'd lived in smaller spaces during college and had managed just fine. But after entertaining on a few occasions, he quickly realized he didn't have the space he needed—or the resort-style flair he ultimately desired.



**After**

**Problem:** The back of the house had a ramshackle porch leading from the kitchen, with no easy access to the yard, which didn't have a deck or patio.

**Solution:** Because the lot was deep enough, Maestri decided not only to fix up the existing porch, but also to add a new wing with an expanded, remodeled kitchen as well as a new den and master suite. That brought the resulting L-shaped house to 2,011 square feet—almost double what it had been prior. The wing featured a curtained veranda with tile floors accessible from four sets of French doors leading from the den and suites. Outdoor comfy furnishings make guests feel right at home. Maestri improved the home's original porch by updating its screened walls, adding new deck flooring, lining the ceiling with bamboo screens, and making outdoor living even breezier with a tropical-style ceiling fan. He added paper lanterns for sculptural light and curtains for softness and privacy. For true living room style, he brought in an indoor-outdoor lamp and rug, as

well as a daybed with indoor-outdoor fabric and pillows. Punctures of red in both the fabric and garden pots give the space vibrancy.

**How Clever:** Maestri has a gas fireplace that can be enjoyed indoors and out. With glass on either side, it looks great framed in streamlined stucco outside, while inside it sports a more contemporary wooden mantel. In the courtyard, Mexican beach pebbles make a soft outdoor rug of sorts; above the fireplace hangs a section of bleached grapevine.

#### SOURCES

##### Designer:

Edward  
Maestri,  
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##### Contractor:

Herman  
Darden, LLC,  
principles  
James Lang  
and Kyle  
McGlothlin,  
214-766-  
9670.



**Before**



**After**

**Landscaping materials/ceiling fans:** The Home Depot, [www.homedepot.com](http://www.homedepot.com); Walton's Lawn & Garden Center, 214-324-3287.

**Bamboo screens:** Lowe's, [www.lowes.com](http://www.lowes.com).

**Furnishings:** The Bombay Company, [www.bombaycompany.com](http://www.bombaycompany.com); West Elm, [www.westelm.com](http://www.westelm.com); Pier 1, [www.pier1.com](http://www.pier1.com); Crate & Barrel, [www.crateandbarrel.com](http://www.crateandbarrel.com); Target, [www.target.com](http://www.target.com); Pottery Barn, [www.potterybarn.com](http://www.potterybarn.com).

### { light force }

When Kalynn and Tully Weiss bought their 1971 Lakewood Terrace tract home several years ago, the only impact their kitchen, living space, and bathrooms created was a thud. The couple aimed for a cleaner, brighter space to help further open up the 1,330-square-foot home they share with their English bulldog, Zipper, and English bull terrier, Button. To achieve their design goals, the couple turned to modern-minded architect Dan Shipley.