



7 TIPS FOR CREATING INDOOR/OUTDOOR LIVING SPACES

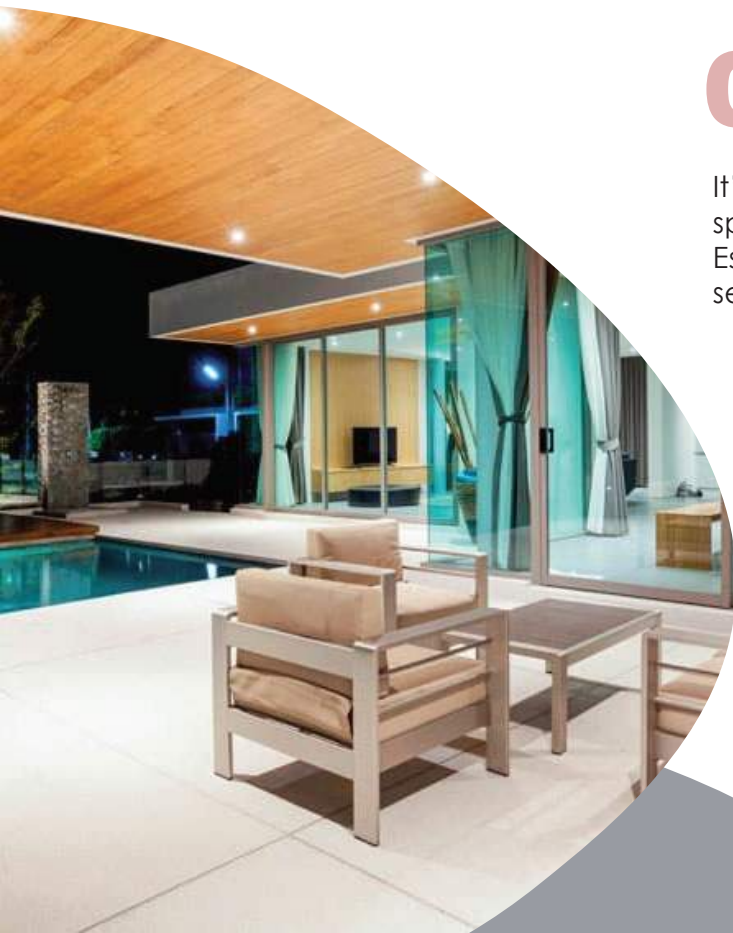
01 REDEFINING BOUNDARIES

The outdoor/indoor space should be a true extension of the home, which is why it's important to create a seamless transition between the two. In that way, the spaces appear to be one rather than two. Large pocket or accordion glass doors are a great way to blur the visual barriers between the two areas. When weather permits, you can open up the exterior wall and instantly double the floor space.



02 KEEP IT COVERED

It's always best to have a combination of covered and uncovered outdoor spaces — but be sure to provide a covered entertaining area if at all possible. Essentially, you'll be creating a series of outdoor rooms that will give you a sense of place without taking away from the fact that you're outdoors.



03 MAKE IT LEVEL

The goal is to remove any visual or physical barriers between the two spaces — including any changes in floor level. Making sure your indoor and outdoor spaces are on the same plane assures they'll function as one space when needed. Eventually you can have some combination of hardscape and steps down to lead you to other areas of your backyard or some special feature.



04 WATER FEATURES

Japanese and Mid- Century Architects have been using water as a transition element between different world and to bring a sense of calm and relaxations to all your senses.

05 PLAN FOR TEMPERATURE CHANGES

Depending on the climate, you might need heating, cooling, or both to feel comfortable in an indoor-outdoor living space throughout multiple seasons.

For warmth in the outdoor zone, consider adding heaters that hang from a patio cover or attach to your exterior's baseboards. Or, you can add a floor-standing heater that uses propane or natural gas. For cooling, Fuller commonly sees ceiling fans and misters installed around the exterior perimeter for summertime cooling



06 TAKE THE KITCHEN OUTSIDE

Outdoor kitchens are some of the most useful renovations and a smart investment. An outdoor kitchen that can be a multi-purpose, multi-function and multi-season outdoor living space is truly a thoughtful investment.

Another reason to build an outdoor kitchen is that, unlike adding a pool, it doesn't necessarily require a large amount of square footage. A countertop, grill, sink and perhaps an under-the-counter refrigerator is really all that is needed.

Outdoor family rooms are also a great way to create additional entertaining space without the cost of an addition or renovation. With a bit of creativity, it is possible to design an outdoor room that is just as enjoyable as an indoor living room. As such, it is important to make the space extremely comfortable and inviting. Use outdoor furniture such as couches and chairs to create an intimate seating area. A television or inviting table may act as a focal point that draws people together. Fireplaces are also a great addition to a seating area that can be used in the colder months.



07 ROOFTOPS ARE THE NEW BACKYARDS

This is a great idea of vertical outdoor-indoor interaction for homes built on a smaller footprint, water or just situated on uneven land that may too large a project or costly to build out. However, even if the backyard is large enough to accommodate your needs, rooftops are an added luxury.