

14 BLISSFUL PATIOS MADE FOR LOUNGING

These outdoor areas combine the amenities of a living room with the freshness of nature.

BY JESS CHERNER



Photo by Francesco Lagnese

Tom Scheerer looked to this 18th-century [East Hampton home](#)'s original French country elements in designing both its interior and outside spaces. Its lush patio is a shining example of his signature blend of sophistication and comfort.

“Having a house in Europe keeps my eyes open as a style monger, certainly, but it also keeps my core values in check,” Scheerer [once told us](#). Here, he paired a set of vintage [bamboo furniture](#) with a rattan loveseat, keeping the overall feel romantic and easy.



Photo by William Waldron

For an expansive private terrace off the main suite of a New York apartment, [Wesley Moon](#) partnered with landscape architect Aaron McIntire. “He truly understands how to transform an urban rooftop into the perfect serene oasis,” the designer says of McIntire.

Moon accentuated the tranquil space by deploying furniture with soft curves, like the sculptural concrete [Willy Guhl](#) chair and lava stone end table by [Christian Liaigre](#). “One of my favorite decoration items on this terrace is the custom mosaic coffee table that I designed with Sicis,” he says. “It has amazing style and is perfect for outdoor environments.”



Photo by Peter Murdock

David Kleinberg went for classic simplicity on the back deck of a [Hamptons country home](#), complementing the clean lines of the columns and gridded pergola roof with seating and a coffee table by [McKinnon and Harris](#) that interpret Roman architecture via Jeffersonian Virginia.



Photo by Christopher Stark

“The major goal for this [minimalist San Francisco](#) patio was to provide comfortable seating that worked with the architecture,” says Sean Leffers. He worked architect John Maniscalco, who designed the built-in benches and fireplace. Leffers then added chairs by [Janus et Cie](#), covered in a comforting dark gray terrycloth.

“The best thing about the space is how warm and cozy it is on a cool San Francisco night,” he notes, “snuggling up in the soft fabrics around the fire looking across the city toward downtown.”



Photo by Keith Scott Morton

For her modern beach house in [Sag Harbor](#), New York, Allison Babcock wanted a porch that seamlessly bridged the gap between indoor and outdoor. She also wanted it to be usable year-round.

“We decided on this seating area that is open on three sides and covered by roof to protect us from the elements,” says Babcock, who worked on the porch with architect Blaze Makoid. Warm-toned woodwork and custom furniture help make it welcoming and cozy. “We truly use this space all day long,” she says.



Photo by Tria Giovan

Amanda Lindroth sought to evoke the courtyards of Havana and Cartagena in this outdoor area in Lyford Cay, Bahamas, which she filled with vintage pieces like the [Phyllis Morris](#) and [Bielecky Brothers](#) seating.



Photo by Francesco Lagnese

“Our overall inspiration in building the house was the desire to live outdoors while there, to feel the ocean breeze and create intimate spaces for relaxing and entertaining,” says Bunny Williams, describing La Colina, her and her husband’s onetime [tropical escape](#) on a hilltop in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

Williams modeled the pool house, which doubled as a guest cottage, on a Greek temple, with granite columns extending to the edge of the pool, and outfitted it with teak outdoor seating.



Photo by Peter Murdock

Ernest de la Torre's centerpiece for this [New York City rooftop](#) was his custom riff on classic [Jean Royère](#) lounge chairs. The dark wood frames elegantly set off the playful nautical fabric. "I wanted the client, who loves the view of the East River, to feel like he was on a yacht," the designer says.



Photo by Peter Frank Edwards

Off the main suite of an [island getaway in South Carolina](#), Charlotte Lucas created a calming oasis “that harmonized seamlessly with the outdoors.” The [vintage bamboosofa](#) and love seat, vintage table lamp and eclectic array of throw pillows give the porch a homey vibe.

“We wanted this space to be the ultimate spot to unwind and enjoy the natural surroundings of beautiful Kiawah Island,” Lucas explains.



Photo by Douglas Friedman

Nicole Hollis designed the outdoor seating area of a [family vacation house in Kailua Kona, Hawaii](#), “to take full advantage of the stunning ocean views,” she says. “Sitting at the edge of the property, the built-in banquette’s U shape ensures that every view is completely unobstructed.”

Hollis paired that banquette, by Ledson Construction Company, with a trio of [Fernando Mastrangelo Studio](#) rock salt end tables. And she made sure no one enjoying the vista catches a chill. “As the sun sets,” she notes, “the stone fireplace adds the perfect ambience to take in the tranquil surroundings.”



Photo by Roger Davies

“We wanted the space to be an extension of the client’s living room and encapsulate the ideal California indoor-outdoor living and lifestyle,” designer Emily Turner Barker says of this [Monarch Bay](#) patio.

Her two favorite elements? The [Michael Taylor](#) chairs and retractable Forest Studio canopy, which “has the feeling and sound of a sail being out on the water.”



Photo by Casey Dunn

Enlisted by empty-nesters to give their [Austin lake house](#) a refresh, Fern Santini came up with the perfect concept: a grown-up summer camp with sophisticated flair.

The covered porch follows the script to the letter, with Tidelli rockers and a teak sofa, arranged around a concrete coffee table from Mecox, giving the space a relaxed feel. The mounted red unicycle brings a touch of whimsy.



Photo by Kris Tamburello

Of this Miami balcony, Desiree Cassoni says, “I wanted to reflect the warmth the city but maintain its urban essence, which is why I kept the colors neutra

Cassoni assembled a suitably urbane ensemble, surrounding a Tidelli coffee table with an Alain Gilles sofa and a chair and end table by Sebastian Herkner for Dedon.



Photo by Dominique Vorillon

Kim Alexandriuk had visions of Tuscany when she designed this Bel Air, California, patio. “I wanted something beautiful for the eye at every turn,” she says. “So, we made sure it had elements that would speak to the surrounding nature while still feeling special.”

Eye-catching pieces are many and varied, among them a pair of 1980s Michael Taylor wicker chairs, a contemporary Blackman Cruz stone-top table and 1940s pull-out chairs.