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Sunset

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BEST OF FALL

**15 Outdoor Escapes
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**MIDCENTURY MAKEOVER
TAKE A TOUR OF
SUNSET'S IDEA HOUSE**



Home & Garden



2015 SUNSET
IDEA HOUSE



MIDCENTURY NOW

*The best of the past meets the future
of design in our ranch house
makeover in Denver.*
By Joanna Linberg



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2015
SUNSET
IDEA
HOUSE

When we chose a 1950s ranch house in Denver to remodel for our 2015 *Sunset* Idea House, the response was passionate and mixed. Some people said we should leave a good thing alone. Others pointed out that the house, which wasn't exactly iconic, could use the update. We understand both perspectives. That's why we tapped Jonas DiCaprio of design/build firm Design Platform to devise a remodel that left intact the best of the existing details (like the fireplace) while adding more space and some of the midcentury features (like custom built-ins) the original home lacked. Then interior designer Megan Hudacky of CKY Design layered on contemporary details to bring that vintage style into today. No matter your home's era, you'll be inspired by the result. Architecture: Design Platform, designplatformllc.com. Interior design: CKY Design, ckydesigns.com.

► PUT LIGHT INTO MOTION

Sunshine from the two-story atrium floods the sitting room, right. Custom metal mesh panels usher the light through the stairwell to the basement, living room, and second floor. The room used to be a galley kitchen; Hudacky deployed velvet sofas and a vintage bar cart to turn it into a place for cocktails or reading.

Bar cart:
Vintage.

Bocci lighting:
studiocomo.com.

Hutton sofas in
Vick Haze fabric,
Parks end tables
& Sheepskin rug
in Steel Grey:
roomandboard.com.



A modern sitting room featuring two tufted sofas, one in a dark teal color and one in a dark navy blue. A brass bar cart with a black top is positioned in the foreground, holding bottles of liquor and glasses. A large potted plant stands near a window. The room has light wood flooring, a black fur rug, and two pendant lights hanging from the ceiling. Two abstract paintings are on the walls. A black circle with white text is in the upper right.

SITTING ROOM



Custom rug; Casbah Carbon fabric for drapes; Canvas Flax, Casbah Carbon & Desert II Carbon fabric for upholstery: sunbrella.com.
Possini Trumpet floor lamp: lampsplus.com.
Soren lounge chairs & Dunn cocktail table: roomandboard.com.



Frekvenssi Abstract wallpaper: wayfair.com.



DINING ROOM



Benjamin Moore
Revere Pewter HC-172:
benjaminmoore.com.

Bevanna chandelier
lampsplus.com.

Turtle table & Clothed
Roadrunner chairs:
doublebutter.com.

► USE FURNITURE AS WALLS

Built-in furniture was often used to divide rooms in mid-century homes, DiCaprio says. He brought that element into this house with a massive custom unit that functions as an armoire for coats on the entry side, a wine bar on the kitchen side, and a media cabinet in the living room, opposite. Slats in the center allow light to pass between the different rooms.

► TURN UP THE HEAT

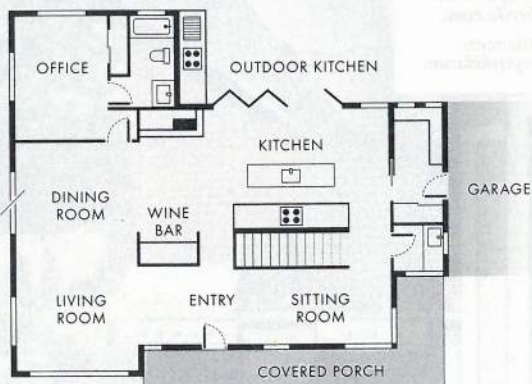
"Most people equate 'modern' with 'cold,'" Hudacky says. "I like to show how warm it can be." She did that in the living room with comfortable furnishings (overstuffed but in streamlined shapes) and wall-to-wall drapery for softness. The custom rug gives the room a style hit.

► BUILD IN A PLACE TO PARTY

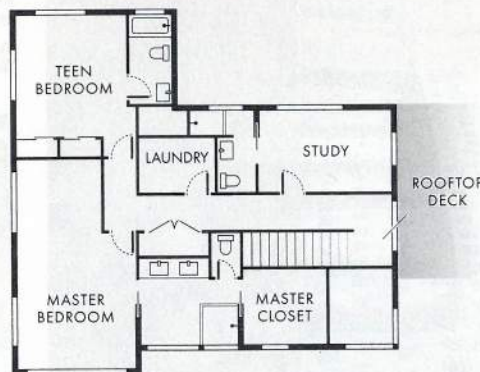
The wine bar, opposite far left, is a hub for entertaining, with equal access from the kitchen and the dining room. A wall-mounted wine rack leaves counter space free for setting out appetizers or desserts. Graphic wallpaper plays on a familiar modern shape and gives the niche an identity.

► WIELD COLOR WISELY

Hudacky painted most of the house Benjamin Moore's Revere Pewter, knowing the natural light would make it look slightly different in each room. Accents of orange-red, aqua, and Dijon yellow animate the gray. In the dining room, left, the metal chairs bring the pop of color the room needed.



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



BASEMENT



KITCHEN & PATIO



Alloy Silver awning fabric: sunbrella.com.
Appliances: fisherpaykel.com.





ActiveSmart refrigerator, double self-clean built-in wall oven, flush gas steel cooktop, & ventilation hood: fisherpaykel.com.

Doors & windows: westernwindow.com.

Natural Hues tile in Aegean, Jade & Real Teal: daltile.com.

Possini Ponder LED pendants: lampsplus.com.

► **MAKE IT SEAMLESS**

Both the floors and kitchen cabinetry are hickory. Design Platform's workshop took care to match the cabinet faces so the wood grain moves seamlessly across the unit.

► **SHINE WITH METAL**

"Metal doesn't have to be blingy," Hudacky says. "When it's brushed, it's really sophisticated." She wrapped the vent hood and

adjacent cabinets, opposite far left, in brushed bronze to dress up the kitchen. Open glass shelves along the rest of the wall get the most impact out of the tile.

► **SPLASH ON THE COLOR**

Hudacky wanted more color in the kitchen than a typical backsplash would give, so she extended the tiles to the ceiling and onto the floor. The stunning result delineates the kitchen from the rest of

the open space. "I chose blue because it's a soothing color most people feel comfortable with," she says.

► **OPEN UP**

Accordion folding doors from Western Window Systems lead to the outdoor kitchen and patio, left, shaded by an adjustable Sunbrella scalloped awning. Ceramic porcelain outdoor tiles and linear pavers mimic the mixed flooring inside.

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"None of us had worked with hickory before, but it's a beautiful material and easy to find."

—MEGAN HUDACKY, INTERIOR DESIGNER





MASTER SUITE

► **PROBLEM-SOLVE**

The master bedroom's picture windows let in a lot of light but made placing the bed a challenge. To solve it, Hudacky hung wall-to-wall drapes, above, to anchor the bed and offer privacy. A luxurious teal velvet quilt from Wayfair echoes the sofas downstairs. "The windows make this room feel large,

so I didn't want to overdecorate and lose that," says Hudacky.

► **ADD BRIGHTS**

A desk with a metal base, above, offers a spot to work—and breaks up the neutral color palette with a dose of yellow. The tapered, angled leg style is inspired by vintage midcentury pieces.

► **DIVIDE AND CONQUER**

The idea of screens separating rooms is repeated in the sitting area, opposite top, where a sheer drape divides this reading spot from the rest of the bedroom. A curvy reproduction lounge chair breaks up the boxy ottoman and shelving.

► **TILE CREATIVELY**

The bathroom's ample light allowed for deeply toned tiles from Heath Ceramics, opposite far right. "I knew the room wouldn't feel dark, but really rich instead," Hudacky says. She added interest to the herringbone pattern by placing light tiles randomly and more densely around the edges of the room.

► **STORE MORE**

Custom drawers, cabinets, and rods hung at multiple heights make efficient use of a 10- by 10-foot walk-in closet, right. DiCaprio left space in the center for an ottoman or island.



DIGITAL BONUS
Take an interactive tour with the designers at sunset.com/virtualltour.



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"I wanted to stay with the midcentury idea of using screens to close areas off. In this case, the sheer drapery also makes the room feel intimate."

—MEGAN HUDACKY

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Dwell Studio
Mercer Slate quilt:
wayfair.com.

Nomadic Carbon
fabric for drapes:
sunbrella.com.

Turtle work table &
Roadrunner chair:
doublebutter.com.

Jonathan Adler Brigitte side
chair & Casablanca Market
Moroccan pouf: wayfair.com.



Clothing: *Courtesy of jjill.com.*
Custom closet: closetfactory.com.



Classic Field tile in Steam,
White & Cast Iron Gray:
heathceramics.com.



**PLAYROOM
& GUEST
SUITE**

➤ KEEP IT CASUAL

This former rec room doesn't stray far from its roots: As a playroom for young children, above, it gets style points from mismatched area rugs laid over the carpet and a custom wall covering of midcentury illustrator Charley Harper's ladybirds. The ottomans can be tossed around for seating (or fort building).

➤ RANDOMIZE COLOR

Colorful tiles break up the gray ones in a playful approach to the guest bathroom, above right. The hex shape is inspired by a midcentury design.

➤ PLAY UP THE LIGHT

A new window well lets so much light into the guest bedroom, right, it's hard to tell the room is in the basement. To capitalize on the brightness, Hudacky chose mostly white bedding from Wayfair, letting drama come from the pillows and stark photography.

It's worth it to go big in some rooms. If the rest of the house is restrained, it will balance out."

—MEGAN HUDACKY



Custom wall covering: designtex.com.

Jonathan Adler Sputnik ceiling light: lampsplus.com.

Linen Beads Hassock & Handcut Shapes Cube poufs; Anatolia Brown, Nomad Pussywillow, & Rhapsody Purple/Red Geometric rugs: wayfair.com.

Natural Hues tile in Mist, Aspen & Dijon: daltile.com.



Dwell Studio Chinoiserie bedding: wayfair.com.

ROOFTOP
DECK



Canvas fabric in Orange & Coal for upholstery: sunbrella.com.
Earth Wood Evolutions in Tigerwood decking: timbertech.com.
Maya chairs & Laguna sofa: roomandboard.com.

► GET OUTSIDE

A rooftop deck, above, over the garage gives the second floor an outdoor space. The composite wood decking was laid on top of the sealed roof, providing the flat surface with extra protection from sun and moisture—a bonus, given Denver’s wide-ranging seasons. Overstuffed furniture is upholstered in Sunbrella indoor-outdoor fabric to prevent fading.

► REFERENCE THE PAST

DiCaprio wanted to distinguish between the original home and the addition, so he kept the existing brick on the first level and clad the addition in horizontal cedar siding, right. Landscape designer Jessica Lummus of Environmental Designs (environmental-designs.net) complemented the clean lines with a bank of terraced planters along the path to the front door. ▶

