



ESSENTIAL
Southwest



Easy Living



WITH SUMMERS SPENT IN MINNESOTA, WHERE “ALL THE HOMES HAVE BASEMENTS AND square foundations,” the main thing this couple didn’t want for their Scottsdale home was a square house. “It was very important to us that this house be architecturally pleasing, with interiors that reflect the Southwest,” they note.

Working closely with builder Randy Arnett-Romero to make their wishes come true was architect Lee Hutchison, who is known for softly curving walls, interesting floor and ceiling treatments, and organic Pueblo design that hugs the land.

The entry courtyard makes a statement with boulders integrated into curving walls of dry-stacked stone, massive vigas from standing dead spruce that measure 40 inches in diameter, and a water feature that looks more like a spring that bubbled up in this desert oasis.

The home’s interiors also reflect the Southwest. In the comfortably furnished living room, for example, rustic wood beams stretch across the ceiling in a radial pattern, walls are dressed in buckskin-hued Venetian plaster, flooring is reclaimed oak, and artworks speak to the region’s heritage.

“The homeowners’ direction to me was comfortable and colorful,” states interior designer Bess Jones. “We balanced the flooring, which is heavily distressed with lots of saw marks, by choosing textural upholstery and sturdy wooden pieces with lots of carving.”

The living room flows to an intimate dining room with a coppery domed ceiling, and a large kitchen with an adjacent hearth room, a favorite spot for morning coffee.

The easy-living vibe extends to the guest casita, with its relaxed furnishings, and to the backyard, where a large wraparound patio has multiple sitting and dining areas. Other amenities include an alfresco shower and a circular spa that spills into an infinity-edge pool.

OPPOSITE: A deep overhang and an enormous viga column define the entry courtyard of this Pueblo-style home. Smaller horizontal vigas in the ceiling radiate outward, with wood planks only partially covering clay roof tiles.

ABOVE: The home’s low profile allows it to blend seamlessly with its natural surroundings.

FOLLOWING PAGES: Under-lit ceiling beams set in a radial pattern heighten interest in the living room. A burlap treatment on the fireplace and a viga mantel with pitted and rusted-steel straps made from the bottom of a water tank underscore the rustic ambience.









OPPOSITE: The kitchen features a hand-sawn timber and clay tile ceiling. Carved wood panels camouflage the refrigerator, the range hood features a plaster finish over burlap, and the island is painted and heavily distressed.

ABOVE: A domed oval ceiling with recessed lighting complements the dining room's curved form. The large window offers courtyard views. Flooring is Autumn Blend flagstone.

BELOW: The home office features reclaimed-wood flooring and a box-beam ceiling with pyramid-shaped plaster insets. A shadowbox frame behind the desk displays a Native American child's garment.

RIGHT: A deep overhang serves as a visor for an alfresco living room defined by large vigas and a stacked-stone fireplace wall. The interplay of wood and stone adds a sense of permanence. Flooring here is Heritage tile accented with manganese insets.



