

Subject: Three Ways To Bring The Outside In

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Dream, Design, Peace Of Mind

Bring The Outdoors "In" With A Three Season Room

Three Types of Seasonal Additions To Your Home

Summer time in Michigan is one of the best times for people to enjoy the outdoors. However, many of us like to enjoy the outdoors all year round. Is there a way to bring more of the indoors directly into your home, without the bugs and the rain? You'll be happy to know that there are several ways. Here are three of the most popular.



Screen Rooms & Enclosed Porches

One of the simplest and fastest ways to enhance the enjoyment of your deck is to build a screen room on top of it. In short you are putting a roof over your deck and adding screened walls all around. A screen room gives you the enjoyment of the outdoors without the mosquitoes invading your comfort. A big advantage of a screen room is the shade. It's just like being outside but with UV protection. Another plus is the abundance of fresh air. And, even if there's a gentle rain, you can still entertain. Another variation of the screen room is a porch enclosure or a screened in porch. Most porches can be modified to be enclosed with screens. If you have a porch or unused deck, consider enclosing it with screens.

Three Season Rooms

For those who like the fresh air and the views combined with the creature comforts of indoor living, the answer may be a three season room. Again, if you have a deck that doesn't get much use or you simply have a desire to replace, the three season room may be the answer. The three season room is a step up from the screen room. It



adds real walls, windows and literally is like adding a room to your home. At the same time, it does not require costly features like heating, air conditioning, plumbing and insulation. So, as the name implies, in Michigan the three season room is only used during the spring, summer and fall. Still, during those seasons, this room will give you a place to host a birthday party or simply curl up in your easy chair with a good book regardless of the weather. Everyone in the family will enjoy the room.



Four Season Rooms

As the name implies, the four season room is a more insulated version of the three season room. This is especially important in northern states like Michigan. When you tighten up the envelope of this room, insulate it well and add heat/air conditioning, you now have the best of both worlds. The four season room becomes an expansion of your home. When equipped with lots of glass you can enjoy the views, while still maintaining some control over air temperatures. When things get too blustery or too hot, simply close the windows and adjust the air. Likewise, on pleasantly cool days, throw open the windows and let breezes in.

Benefits of 3 & 4 Season Rooms

Both of these seasonal spaces add space and function to any household. When planning them you will want to take into consideration the direction that your room will face. Southern exposures will receive a great deal more light and heat than north. East and west exposures will vary throughout the day. These seasonal rooms can become any and every reason rooms. There is no limit to their use. You can create anything from a spa-like retreat to an entertainment area for guests. Some have turned their four season rooms into home offices. Others just like to have a quiet place to sip their morning joe.



If you are considering adding one of these rooms onto your home, you will benefit by getting input from a designer. They will be equipped with a number of ideas to help get your creative juices going while staying within a budget.



Want Some Advice?

Mike and Chris at Custom Built Design & Remodeling have designed, built hundreds of decks, additions and seasonal rooms over the years. They are experienced, easy to work with and guarantee what they do. Give them a call at (517) 881-9871 or send an email to:

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