

OUTDOOR LIVING



eBOOK

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STEP OUTSIDE

The restrictive walls of a home are no longer barriers for creativity. Backyard places have evolved into living spaces.

Its perception produces a seamless symmetry when accounting for what an outdoor space could be. The indoors and outdoors are blended together in a comfortable three season room. New bonds can be forged on the composite deck or tiled patio, accentuated by a decorative area rug. Ingredients are brought through retractable glass doors into the outdoor kitchen for a filling meal cooked under the sun. The soft crackling tones of a beckoning firepit or fireplace are heard on a crisp evening.

Artificial grass maintains its green glimmer, while natural stone pavers adorn a relaxing pathway. Fun and relaxation melt together in a refreshing pool that sports durable, designer tiles.

An abundance of projects can make spending time with the outside elements a gratifying experience.



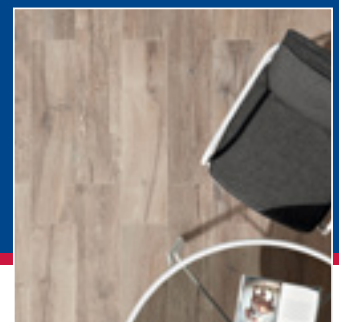
Since nature plays such an important role in well-being, outdoor areas continue to gain more significance in the overall design of a space with the addition of pools, patios, outdoor kitchens, and fireplaces. Outdoor projects emphasize the elements of comfort, style, and safety, as more individuals look to entertain, exercise, and relax in the open air. These skillfully designed open-air retreats provide an extension of interior living and working spaces, as we see a blurring of the lines between interior and exterior environments.



Suzanne Zurfluh

Director of Design and Trend
Emser Tile®

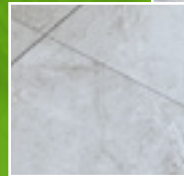
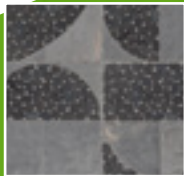
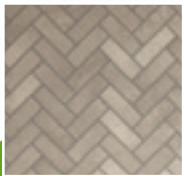
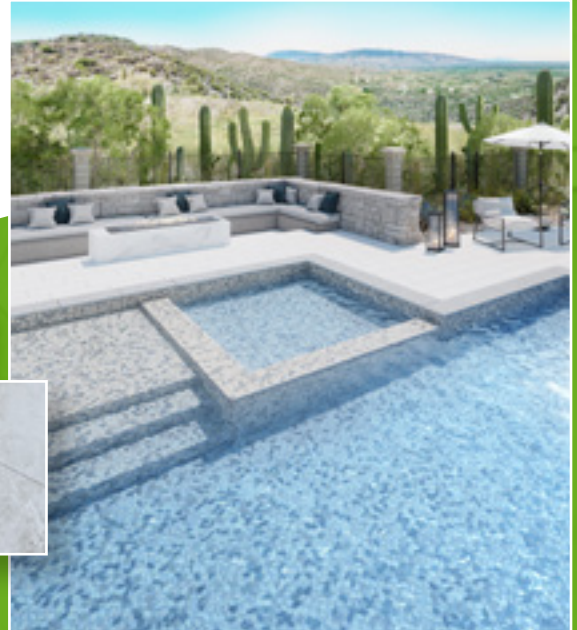
**Photo courtesy of:
Emser Tile®**





PONDER & PLAN

There are considerations for outdoor living, such as how the space will be used, setting a realistic budget, selecting the desired products, and more. Allow time to think it through and plan accordingly. Having a strategy is paramount to project success.



The following pages cover various factors and ideas, and provide inspiration. Indulge in the possibilities.

The boundary of the home extends into the realm of nature. **Welcome the comfort of the climate with outdoor living.**

Photos courtesy of:
Daltil®



Outdoor living is just what it sounds like; homeowners are spending more time eating, visiting, working, and relaxing outside when they are home. Consequently, more beautiful outdoor spaces are being created to serve as extensions of a home's interior living spaces.



Patrick Warren
Vice President
of Residential Sales - Dealer
& Showrooms | Daltil®

THREE SEASON ROOMS



Seasons change, but the enjoyment of a three season room can endure. The inside and outside converge in this space, allowing nature to be enjoyed while remaining protected from the rigorous elements, making their popularity last.

An essential component is the abundant outdoor views, achieved with glass doors, a retractable wall, or large or numerous windows. Many utilize the barrier of a screen to partially welcome the outdoor elements. Still, more and more are utilizing stacked or folded glass doors to bring the outdoors inward, expanding what a three season room can be.

For furniture decisions, comfort and style should coexist. High-quality décor plays a large role in defining the room's personality, whether it is contemporary, coastal, industrial, vintage, or any other design.

Technology has expanded flooring choices. Since these rooms are prone to moisture, consider waterproof options for luxury vinyl plank, luxury vinyl tile, hardwood, and laminate. There is also carpet, which can be bound into a custom area rug, accommodating any size needed. Tile and natural stone make great selections as well. For any floor, the array of colors, sizes, and textures provide ample opportunity to give character to the space.

Finally, wall color and lighting play vital roles in completing the aesthetic, from relaxing to energizing to simple comfort.

It's a jungle out there, but a three season room does not have to resemble one. With each piece, be sure to maintain a cohesive approach to the design.

Photo courtesy of:
Stanton®



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From the type of furniture you choose to the little accents and accessories, pay attention to the details to create a space that is stylish and inviting. And of course, don't forget about the lighting. Proper lighting can make all the difference in creating a space that can be enjoyed day or night.

”

John Linden

Interior Designer | Mirror Coop Design



Photo courtesy of:
WeatherStrong



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DECKS & PATIOS



Photos courtesy of:
Cali®

Decks and patios remain ever-popular staples of outdoor living. With styles and products merging the indoors with the outside world, enjoying the comforts of cooking, dining, and entertaining requires an eye for design.

Before glancing to the sky in awe of this relaxation haven, it is vital to seek inspiration. Patio flooring can take on numerous forms, which reach beyond mere concrete.

Foster an upscale appearance with ceramic tile, porcelain, or natural stone. With slip-resistant options available, and an assortment of colors, textures, and shapes for immediate eye-appeal, the possibilities for different layouts are endless. Versatile and striking tile and stone have the potential of bringing the walls and floors together in a creative nirvana.

For a deck, the use of composite materials can make the design pop with enduring beauty. Any size can be accommodated, offering appearances from modern chic to rustic charm. With the look of real wood, along with its ability to repel moisture and ultraviolet rays, a composite deck can last longer, making it ideal no matter what the geographic climate.

An area rug can complement the deck or patio. Available in a wide assortment of colors, patterns, and textures, they provide an accent to the existing style which permeates throughout the space. These fashionable additions are not restricted by size. Practically any style can be custom bound to fit the desired area. Outdoor rugs can foster familiarity, while illustrating their greater purpose within the design scheme.





Photos courtesy of:
Emser Tile®



Blending indoor and outdoor living is popular, but not in the traditional sense. People are looking for ways to bring an indoor aesthetic to their outdoor living spaces. This means upgrading the seating options to be more comfortable and styled in a similar manner to indoor sofas and armchairs. They are also creating more intimate spaces by breaking up a large patio or backyard area into smaller single-use places. One area can be a living room-style seating area, another an outdoor kitchen, and a third can be the outdoor dining room. When creating your spaces, look for ways to add technology. This could be an outdoor Bluetooth speaker system, decorative lighting, or an outdoor TV or projector system for watching movies.



Andra DelMonico

Lead Interior Designer | Trendey



OUTDOOR KITCHENS

Consume a full meal at a table shared with Mother Nature.

The past few years have played witness to a growing momentum for bringing the kitchen outside. Many of the facets which reside indoors can make an appearance with an outdoor kitchen.

Cabinets for these spaces can be found in a plethora of sizes and colors. These fixtures of every kitchen are resistant to the intensity of the outdoors, but that also means fewer material choices, such as stainless steel, aluminum, and teak wood. Still, they offer an array of storage and organization innovations for nearly any need.

Flooring also factors into the space. Tile and natural stone offer superior performance and appearance, while providing easy cleaning and maintenance. An area rug can be added for vibrant eye appeal. Bold and muted backsplash and wall options level-up designs from timeless to trendy, allowing the focus to be on the meal at hand.



Photos courtesy of:
WeatherStrong





The upscale grill or outdoor stove likely sport multiple burners and a warming area, surrounded by an attractive, hygienic, and durable countertop. With material options such as quartzite, marble, granite, and more, alongside the textures, colors, and veining, design is combined with multi-purpose function. These integral countertops are perfect for elevated stools that foster the ideal environment for dining, drinking, or just entertaining.

Presenting a happier, more enjoyable experience year-round, outdoor kitchens offer the opportunity to keep a close eye on the kids playing in the yard or pool while preparing a satisfying meal.



Photos courtesy of:
WeatherStrong





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Functionality is key. Make sure the space is functional and serves the purpose you need it to. For example, if you're adding an outdoor kitchen, consider how much cooking and entertaining you'll be doing and design the space accordingly.

John Linden
Interior Designer
Mirror Coop Design

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One trend that I absolutely love about outdoor living is edible gardening. Since people are also bringing the kitchen outside, it's only practical to have your resources right there, too. It's sustainable, you'll have fresh produce, and you'll save money. If your backyard permits, you can utilize the perimeter and incorporate the garden into the design. Even a small space would allow a vertical garden. You can line the pathways and surround the seats with potted plants so it won't consume a lot of floor area and would even become a decoration.

”

Giovanni Scippo
Director | 3D Lines



OUTDOOR BARS

Raise a glass to the great outdoors with the addition of a bar. This can be a stylish place to gather, converse, and quench thirst.

An outdoor bar can be encased by tile, porcelain, or stone. Each carries characteristics – color, texture, size, and shape – which give the space a touch of finesse. Whether part of the bar wall, adjoining columns, or underfoot, they are each a satisfying choice.

The countertop plays an integral role as the hub for serving drinks and snacks. It can complement the other elements or provide a little contrast.

Storage for glassware will be needed, which can be shelving or cabinets made from stainless steel, aluminum, select woods (e.g., teak), or composite materials. Add a small fridge for cold beverages. A spout (or two) for favorite drinks might also make the list.

When the glasses are empty, having a faucet and sink at the bar will come in handy, made from stainless steel, copper, or brass, depending on the design theme. Elegant lighting adds the finishing touch on the proper mood.



Photo courtesy of:
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People are looking to create exterior entertainment areas such as outdoor bars, fancy kitchens, and beautiful sitting areas. Also, many times the homeowner wants the outdoor living space to be a visual continuation of the adjacent indoor living space, creating a cohesive design between the two spaces.

Patrick Warren

Vice President of Residential Sales
Dealer & Showrooms | Daltile®

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**Photo courtesy of:
WeatherStrong**





FIRE PITS & FIREPLACES

Adding a fire pit or fireplace to the backyard is a hot trend. Nestling up to the warmth allows outdoor living to exist even when the temperature cools. Plus, they have the added perk of providing a radiant ambiance.

Natural stone, such as travertine or quartzite, is an excellent choice for surrounding a fireplace or fire pit. The stacked look provides an exquisite appearance paired with the stamina to withstand the heat. Allow for ample, stylish seating around the flames.

Either addition extends character to the backyard, especially after the sun has set. Outdoor living can be a glowing experience with the existence of a fire pit or fireplace. Warm up to the idea.

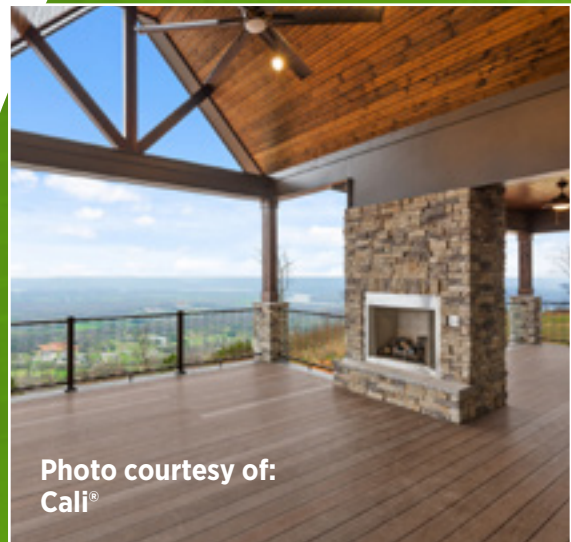


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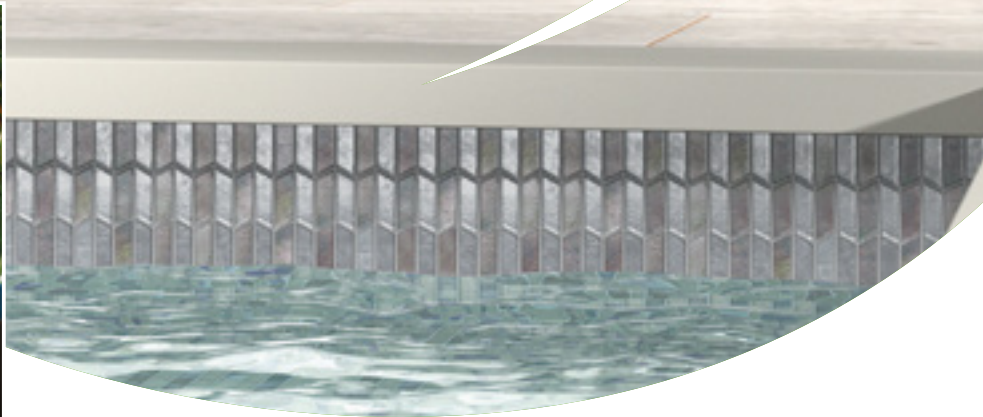
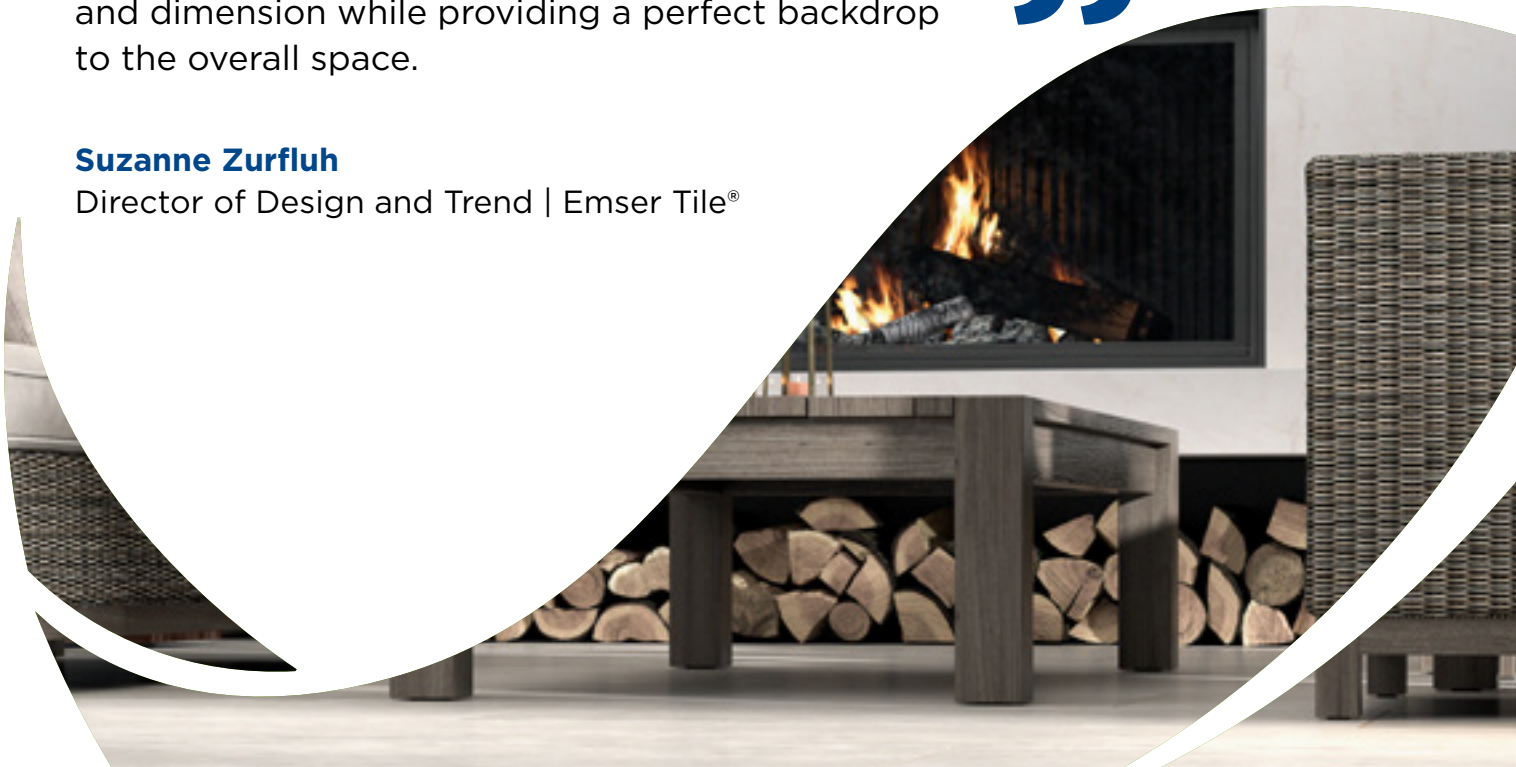
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As homeowners look to create their own outdoor oasis with a minimalist aesthetic, tile and stone in warm neutrals and earthy pigments gain popularity for both floor and wall surfaces. Products that have natural, tactile qualities that resemble stacked stone, natural wood, concrete, and brick add visual interest and dimension while providing a perfect backdrop to the overall space.

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Suzanne Zurfluh

Director of Design and Trend | Emser Tile®



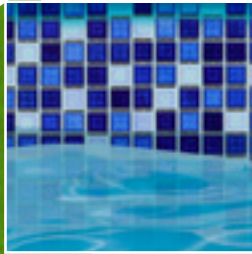
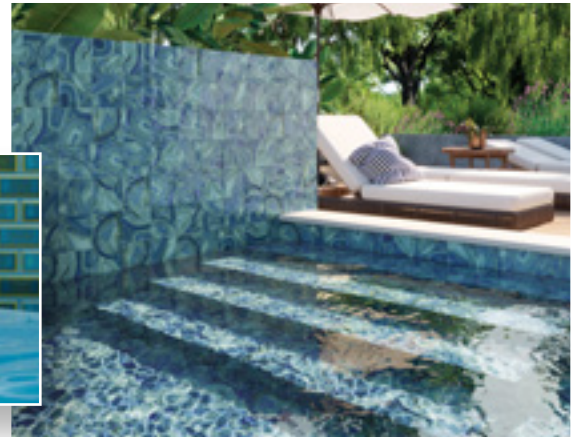
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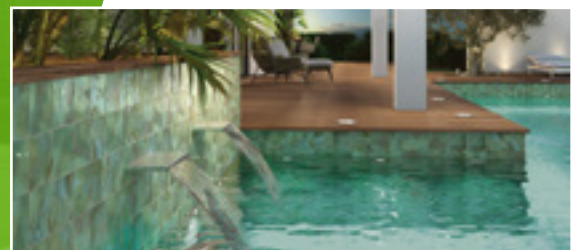
POOLS

Float the idea of having a pool be part of any outdoor living project. Regardless of its shape or size, there is much to enjoy about its addition to the home.

On the surrounding surface, slip resistant tile or natural stone envelopes the water with design personality. Inside the water, pool-rated tile can sparkle. This is especially true for small mosaics in green or blue hues.



There has been a rise in adding an adjoining waterfall or other water feature. Enhancing it with ambient lighting can establish a tranquil atmosphere. As a result, leaving the pool area may no longer be a consideration.



Photos courtesy of:
Emser Tile®



Photos courtesy of:
Emser Tile®

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In warmer climates, pools have become an integral part of the outdoor living lifestyle. They have gone from being a simple hole in the ground to a mini oasis escape that takes elements from tropical resorts. You'll see large decking or stone patios built out around the pool. Arranged on them are cabana-style coverings, lounge-style chairs, and an outdoor bar. You'll also see pools that may not be deep, so more as wading or lounge pools that are shallow in depth.

”



Andra DelMonico

Lead Interior Designer | Trendey



OUTDOOR SHOWERS

The emergence of outdoor showers in a growing number of backyard projects is a reflection of the desire to increase and enhance time spent in nature. After a day in the sun, the refreshing feel of water pouring down, while surrounded by the natural elements, redefines cleansing the body.

These areas boast the same top-quality shower heads and drainage systems found indoors, but allow for the allure of bathing outdoors.

The materials, which surround the shower, aid in evolving it into an oasis.

Aligning it with a privacy wall of stylish, durable tile or natural stone can illustrate the creativity and vision necessary for a cohesively outdoor living aesthetic.

This is more than merely getting clean; it is about an experience. With awareness to the senses, outdoor showers become aquatic works of art.



Photo courtesy of:
Daltile®

One of the fastest growing trends in outdoor living is the addition of outdoor showers. They are a natural in any climate, and with the right product can become a year-round expansion that enhances the experience of a home. Whether a rise-off shower near a pool or a more elaborate styled shower space, the outdoor shower can be adopted to any lifestyle and budget. Adding in the versatility of the available styled products currently on the market, this is something everyone should consider for an outdoor living space.



Patrick Warren

Vice President of Residential Sales - Dealer & Showrooms | Daltile®



ARTIFICIAL GRASS & PAVERS

The yard is not immune from upgrades that enhance its appeal. By introducing artificial grass or pavers, or both, landscaping can usher in a new realm of interest.

For a consistent look, artificial grass is a welcomed sight. To the eye, this low-maintenance alternative can emit the look of the real thing. It is available in various tones and style options that offer aesthetics like freshly-cut, thick, and natural. Highlighting its performance, artificial grass maintains its V-shaped integrity, preventing the flattening of its strong blades. With the geographic climate being such an important factor in lawn health, it surpasses tradition with built-in drainage.

Pavers provide a path to tranquility and relaxation that complements, if not defines, the yard design. Utilizing the best-suited size and shape, each piece is strategically placed, in order to create the exact function desired. Whether they serve as a guide into the backyard, offer safe passage through a expansive garden, or accentuate the area around a pool, pavers provide an answer to some of outdoor design's most burning questions.

Boasting its sustainability, natural stone material options include the subtle beauty of limestone, the rustic expression of slate, the earthy look of travertine, and the elegance of marble. Other designs may be better matched with porcelain, which can replicate the appearance of wood, concrete, or stone.

Coupled together, artificial grass and pavers create an idyllic, worry-free atmosphere amid a leisurely afternoon leading into an eventful evening.



Photo courtesy of:
Cali®

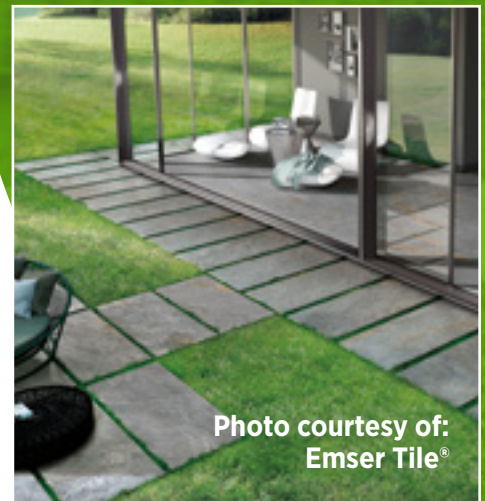


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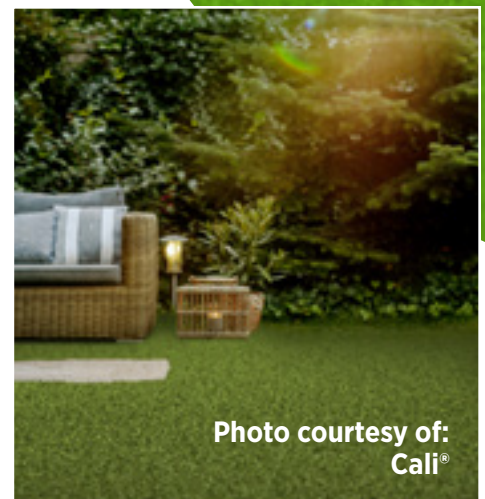


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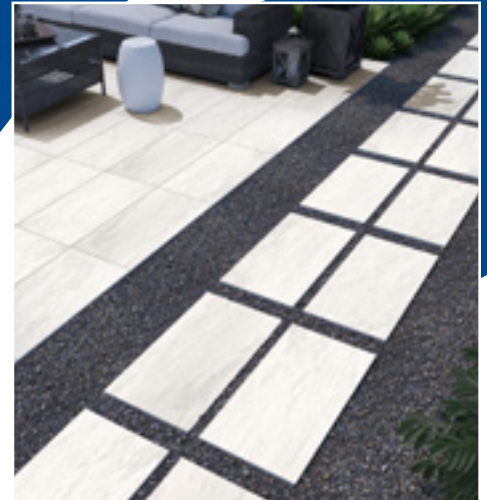
Outdoor living is just what it sounds like; homeowners are spending more time eating, visiting, working, and relaxing outside when they are home. Consequently, more beautiful outdoor spaces are being created to serve as extensions of a home's interior living spaces. The main product for developing an outdoor living space is porcelain pavers. They are impervious to water penetration and are long-lasting, adding incredible value to each space. There is wide breadth of products available with on-trend designs that can be installed depending on the needs of the space. Versatile, durable designs, and a fantastic performance story, porcelain pavers are worth investigating for your next project.

Patrick Warren

Vice President of Residential Sales - Dealer & Showrooms | Daltile®



Photo courtesy of: Emser Tile®



As a reflection of the importance of connecting with nature, outdoor projects, including the addition of patios, pool decks, fire pit surrounds, gardens, and walkways continue to become more prevalent in design. With this greater focus on the outdoor space, we continue to see pavers gain popularity since they are durable, easy to maintain, and offer unique visuals along with flexible design capabilities. Pavers are an excellent flooring option that can beautify and enhance a space given that they are available in an array of different designs, patterns, colors, and materials ranging from natural stone to porcelain assortments.



Suzanne Zurfluh

Director of Design and Trend | Emser Tile®



Photo courtesy of: Cali®

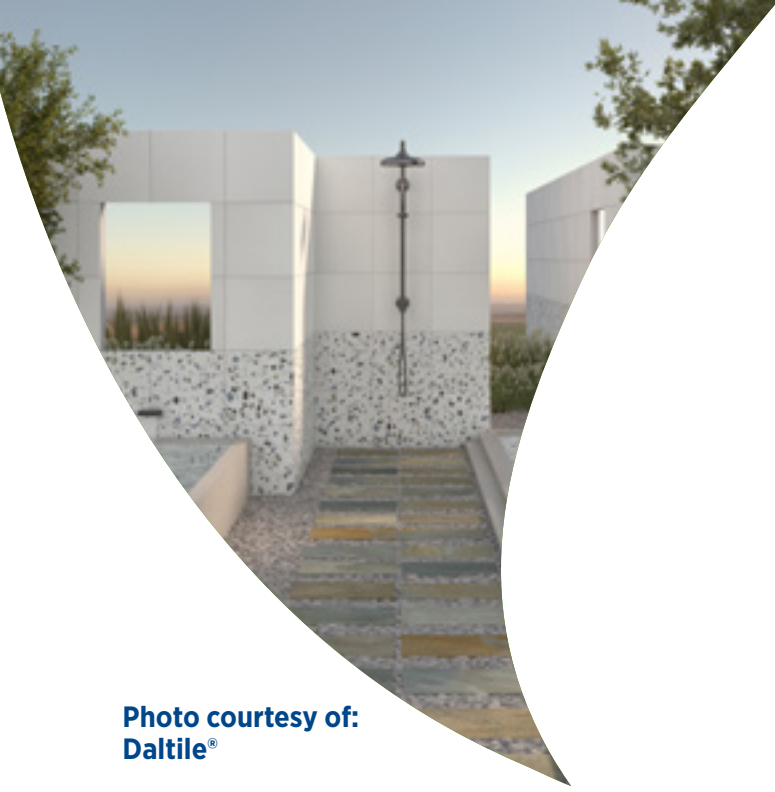


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SUMMARY

With a little cooperation from the weather, outdoor living has grown strong, highlighting the creativity of those looking to transform and enjoy these spaces under the sun. With the rethinking of three season rooms, decks and patios, kitchens, pools, and landscaping, aesthetics are on the minds of those looking to modify what being outside means.

Reimagine nature in the backyard and join the revolution of those producing these havens full of boundless possibilities. Push the reality of livable space with outdoor living.



Photo courtesy of:
Stanton®



Create a focal point. Whether it's a beautiful fireplace, a pool with a waterfall feature, or a stylish outdoor bar, choose one element that will be the star of the show



John Linden
Interior Designer
Mirror Coop Design



Photo courtesy of:
Stanton®



The past few years have inspired individuals to spend more time outdoors as these areas continue to become more functional and soothing. Outdoor amenities and entertainment areas continue to gain popularity for many activities with an increased focus on sitting areas, fireplaces, kitchens, pools, and fountains. Tile used on outdoor floors, walls and fireplaces can bring an added layer of warmth and sophistication to the surroundings while helping to connect the outdoor design theme to the interior space.



Suzanne Zurfluh

Director of Design and Trend | Emser Tile®

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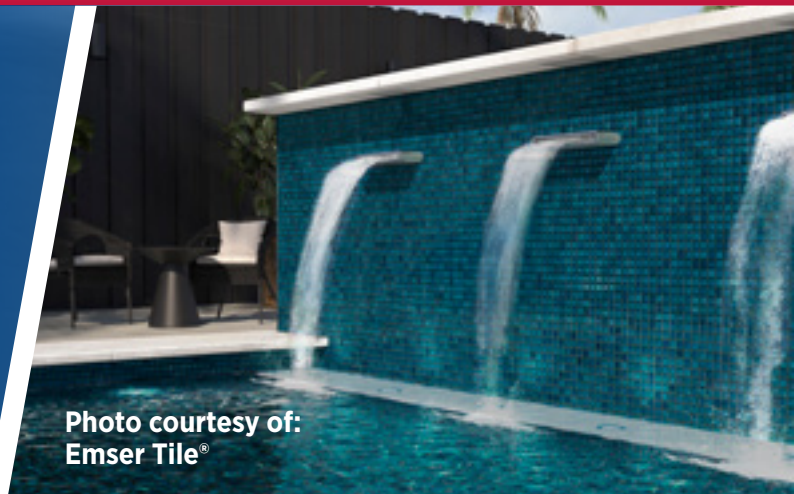


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