

## TODAY'S EMPHASIS ON Texture

Article on page 2

**NARI CotY  
AWARDS**  
ATLANTA CHAPTER

## An Evening to Celebrate!

NARI Atlanta's Silver Anniversary Contractor of the Year (CotY) Awards Gala was a night to remember! The extraordinary event took place on December 12, 2017 in the Grand Outlook Ballroom of the Atlanta History Center. Several Atlanta Design & Build team members attended with anticipation for the announcement of CotY winners since we had entered some incredible projects into the awards contest. The team was thrilled that Atlanta Design & Build won awards in three different Residential categories: Basement Over \$100k; Exterior Under \$100k; and Interior Over \$150k. Here the team is proudly holding our award trophies.

*Photo courtesy of: Sylvia Small Communications & Marketing.*



L-R Front row: Nancy Pergrim, Miguel Solis, Steven Roberts, Sydney Contant-Nunes. Back row: Randy Pergrim, Joel Mooneyhan, Dale Contant, Keely Contant, Stephanie Roberts, Caio Nunes, Barbara Brown

# TODAY'S EMPHASIS ON *Texture*

As the contemporary look for interiors has gained prominence in the US, our homes are being transformed by a cleaner, more streamlined design aesthetic. Unlike modern design that homeowners often feel is too cold and minimalistic, contemporary interiors are warm and inviting, without being cluttered. They offer a subtle elegance that is the here and now.

Contemporary interiors typically focus on space, color, shape and lots of natural light. Black, white and neutral colors, as well as geometric shapes, define the space. Accessories in bold colors—even a vase of flowers or a bowl of fresh fruit— can give punch to the room. And with contemporary design, the impact of bare spaces is often just as important as the decorative objects in a room.

Textures are used to bring warmth and interest into the contemporary home. Weaving natural textures into a smooth, sleek interior makes it feel more welcoming. Layering a variety of textures in a space is becoming increasingly popular. Some of the preferred materials selected for this purpose are metal, wood, stone, glass, concrete, leather, fabric and wallpaper, as well as live plants.

Brushed brass and matte black metal finishes are on trend in contemporary interiors, yet stainless steel continues to shine.



Photo: Courtesy of Richelieu ([www.richelieu.com](http://www.richelieu.com))

Interestingly, wallpaper is making a comeback, especially geometric prints and 3-D sculptural patterns. A living green wall, created from hundreds of live plants, not only offers the benefits of adding bold beautiful color to the home environment, it also provides healthy, clean oxygen.

Another aspect of Green texture that may be used in a contemporary interior involves eco-friendly recycling ideas enlivened with modern colors and innovations. Some of today's most impressive fashion trends emphasize turning recycled and eco-friendly materials into fresh interior design solutions.

On page one, the beautiful recycled leather in a Jumbo Croc pattern gives unique texture to the kitchen island. The leather is from EcoDomo, a company that specializes in sustainable creative applications of leather. EcoDomo also designs wall panels from repurposed leather belts that can be used as whimsical accents, such as the backsplash shown here. Richelieu's novel wood wall panels are made from recycled Oak wood wine barrels from Spain. The combination of the type of wine barrel and the length of aging gives each panel its own artistic flair and color. The walk-in shower by Kohler displays the softening effect that live plants give to rooms with hard surfaces.



Photo: Courtesy of KOHLER ([www.kohler.com](http://www.kohler.com))



Photo: Courtesy of EcoDomo ([www.ecodomo.com](http://www.ecodomo.com))

# 4 Tips for Open Concept Interiors

The open concept for home interiors has captured the imagination of homeowners across the country. Interior walls that once compartmentalized kitchens from dining and living rooms, making homes feel confining, are coming down everywhere. People appreciate the bright, expansive feeling that is created when natural light can more easily pass through their entire living space. The open concept allows you to blend your cooking, family time and socializing.

**If you are planning to bring the open concept into your home, here are four ideas to consider:**

**1.** Consult with a professional remodeler before you start a DIY project by tearing down your walls. Disasters have resulted from

homeowners who have unknowingly removed load-bearing walls. Also, non-load-bearing walls may have wiring, plumbing or HVAC running through them that will need to be rerouted. A professional has the expertise needed to achieve the beautiful and functional end results you desire for your new open space.

**2.** Removing interior kitchen walls will eliminate some wall space for installing cabinets. You still need to have storage space for your pots and pans, utensils and food items. Purchasing cabinets with built-in, high-quality organizational storage systems, as well as extra tall cabinets with more shelves, will allow you to store more items in less space. A larger island can also provide additional storage.

**3.** Consider how your lifestyle will interpret the design of your open kitchen. For example, if you have young children who will spend a lot of time with you in the kitchen/family room space, your needs will be different from that of an empty-nester who primarily entertains friends. Make a list of your priorities before the design process begins.

**4.** Open your living space to the outdoors. Removing an exterior wall and installing a wide expanse of sliding glass doors or folding glass doors that open to an outdoor deck or patio can actually expand your living space. You can make the outside seem like a natural extension of the inside by using the same or similar materials and finishes in both locations.



Photo: By James F. Wilson

## Writable Surfaces

It isn't high-tech like an iPad or computer, but Formica's new Writable Surfaces Collection offers fun and functionality for a wide variety of locations in your home. It is available in chalkboard and markerboard options in six colors and designs. Each provides the chance to write a personal note or draw a picture on the surface, and then simply wipe it away when finished. For children (and adults) who've always wished they could draw on the walls at home and not get in trouble for it—this is the perfect answer.



Photos: Courtesy of Formica (www.formica.com)



Formica's Writable Surfaces may be used on vertical and horizontal surfaces, so it can function as a wall panel, desktop or countertop. Think about where you might want a surface like this in your home. In the kitchen it could be the place where family members add needed items to the grocery list, or make suggestions for your weekly meal plan. In the entryway or mudroom it could be a part of your family "command center" where the children are reminded to feed the dog or clean up their rooms. You might enjoy a surface like this in your craft room to help jump-start ideas. And if you really want to please the kids, give them a Writable Surfaces wall panel in their bedrooms where they can let their imaginations run wild!

An Evening to Celebrate

Deck & Porch for Entertaining

Today's Emphasis on Texture

4 Tips for an Open Concept



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## A Deck and Screened Porch for Entertaining

This English Country home in an idyllic woodland setting next to the Chattahoochee River in Marietta, GA, is finally fulfilling our clients' wishes. The homeowners desired a large deck and screened porch that increased their home's functionality for entertaining, and was constructed with such expertise they would never have to replace their deck again.

The Atlanta Design & Build team discovered the existing cedar deck was badly deteriorated and unsafe to use. The railings were loose and could easily be pushed over, and the wood was not holding up to the weather. As our team worked on the main curved section of the deck, we removed everything from the structural joists up, replacing the handrails and decking.

The new decking is a Fiberon composite. To curve the decking boards around the perimeter of the deck, our supplier heated them in a 9ft oven at their facility until they curved properly. We removed the old cedar wrap from the steel posts and installed a new metal decorative post wrap to match the black railing system by Westbury. Building the curved stairway, repeats the curved design of the entire outdoor space.

The existing framing for a section of the deck was so inadequate the deck bounced up and down when the homeowners walked on

it. Previous repair attempts to stabilize it had not worked. Our ADB team removed that entire portion of the deck and in its place built a screened porch.

Gorgeous Brazilian OHC Ipe hardwood covers the screened porch floors. Tongue & groove wood was pickled to let the wood grain show through and installed on the ceiling. The existing exterior brick walls offer additional texture. The focal point of the space is an impressive wood-burning fireplace with real stone hearth and mantle. The stone was sawn in half to decrease its weight.

The ADB team also rebuilt four cedar arbors in the front of the house and on the garage, while keeping the original vines intact. The decorative and very attractive OZCO brackets are a fastening system that was used to tie the whole structure together.

Our clients are very pleased with their new deck and screened porch. For the past several years they have not been able to use their deck because it was unsafe. ADB carefully built our clients' new deck to building code standards. Now the homeowners are excited about the entertaining possibilities their new space affords.

When you are looking to enhance your outdoor entertaining possibilities, our skillful ADB Team are the experts to contact.