



SPECIAL REMODELING SECTION



BEFORE

Architect Peter Block's design includes several changes to the front façade and entryway, including a traditional English front door, a retaining wall and new front steps, and three large, Arts and Crafts-style dormer windows.

Front and Center

The effects of a Buckhead home's new rear addition are felt on its front façade

Written by Sarah Gleim Photographed by Peter Block Styling by Elle Roper

ARCHITECT PETER BLOCK HAS HEARD IT A MILLION TIMES. A family of five had outgrown their home. They'd considered moving, but still loved their 1940's house and its Buckhead location, despite the smaller size. They were looking to Block to create a plan that would enlarge the house while maintaining, and further enhancing, its character as an English cottage.

One of the first modifications was replacing the dormer windows on the front and rear façades. Block swapped the four smaller windows on the front of the house with three larger, deeper Arts and Crafts-style dormers that were more true to the home's character. "Three windows work much better and actually give more space inside," Block says. The dormers on the rear of the house were also removed, and the upstairs layout was completely re-designed to make room for the expansive rear addition.

"The back portion of the house was originally one level with a flat roof," Block says. "We used a pitched roof [on the addition] that was very much in keeping with the house." The new addition included a large screened-in porch that is accessible from the living room, dining room, kitchen and family area. "The family really wanted a great screened

Style Focal Point

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Block removed the dormers from the rear of the house to make room for the expansive rear addition with large screened-in porch.



porch and outdoor living space,” Block says. “The new porch now gives them direct access to the back yard and new patio, which they didn’t have before.”

Several more aesthetic changes were made to the front of the home, especially to the front entryway. The original front door was replaced with a larger, more traditional English door with vertically proportioned panes and transom window. “The new door provides the scale the entry needed, and the large transom lets in a ton of light,” Block says.

A number of finishing touches—such as painting the siding, trim and eaves a dark shade of brown—were completed to help unify the house, while a new slate roof was added to enhance the home’s sophistication. A new retaining wall and front steps were built to create the extra space needed to add a circular driveway and more level yard.

But the most distinctive improvement came courtesy of the homeowner’s brother, ironwork artist Andrew Crawford, who fashioned a slightly modern metal canopy, which added a touch of contemporary style that’s simple and fresh. “We really like to create unusual juxtapositions on houses that are unexpected but nonetheless fitting,” Block says.



Ironwork artist Andrew Crawford fashioned a more contemporary metal canopy, above, that adds a fresh look to the entryway. ■ The home’s new screened-in porch, at left, provides access to the back yard and new patio, giving the family the outdoor living space they desired.



DESIGN DETAILS

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