

CUSTOM HOMES *of Texas*

WRITTEN BY: MEGAN ANN OSWALD
PHOTOS COURTESY OF: CASEY DUNN

While searching for the perfect piece of land, the Ranch on the Blanco was bought because of its border with the Blanco River, but the homeowners also saw opportunity in the existing 1970s ranch house. Giving the house a modern update, it now fits the setting and intended use of the family.

Because the family uses the ranch house for getaways and hunting trips, they wanted to create a floor plan that was conducive to entertaining large groups of people while feeling comfortable at the end of an eventful day. To help with the renovations, the homeowners brought in Interior Designer Marcus Mohon, who helped update their existing home. Because of his previous work for the homeowners, Marcus had a head start in designing a look that would bring together the family's taste in decoration with the location and purpose of the house.

Simplistic and clean is the overall look of the ranch house and was the starting base for the work Marcus put into the house. Crisp white walls are the perfect background in every room while the new black metal windows and sliding doors frame views of the river and bring the natural setting inside. Along with opening up the space to include the landscape outside, Marcus opened up interior walls to bring in more natural light while creating more entertaining space for their large family and their guests.

Views of the river are the main focal point in the family room. Floor-to-ceiling windows and doors allow the inside and outside spaces to meld together and create a living area that extends almost to the water.

INTERIOR DESIGNER: MARCUS MOHON

Completely remodeled, the kitchen is a bright and open room where the whole family can congregate. The large double islands allow multiple people to work in the kitchen without bumping elbows.



The original configuration of the kitchen was isolated and lacked natural light, making it one of the first rooms to have walls knocked down to open up the space. Double islands provide plenty of room for cooking meals and the curved bar top is surrounded by industrial styled stools for a mix of wood and metal. The cream colored cabinetry and countertops allow the sightline to flow through the room, making the already long space seem endless.

One of the things that Marcus loved about working on this home were the custom finds that the homeowners found at antique sales or inherited from family members. "Their style reflects their wardrobe. White linen, leather boots; nothing over decorated." The dining room and family

room are full of antiques and repurposed finds. The wood and leather chairs found around the table were owned by the homeowner's grandmother, while the cowhides in the living room were collected while on vacation in Round Top.

Along with opening up the interior spaces of the home, the family decided to turn the unused garage into a bunk room and rec room. A creative solution for watching movies in the rec room is the tiered pallet seating with custom pillows and cushions. The bunk room provides more sleeping space, but a hidden feature of the house is the fact that the closets were removed during the reconstruction process for more bedroom space as well.



With a minimal design that highlights the homeowner's personal style and taste, Marcus enjoyed working on the Blanco River home to reflect the family. "My job is done when they use every room." With a family event or the desire to just get out of the city just about every weekend, this home is well-loved and utilized.



Located in the original garage, the bunk room is set up with pallet theater seating and custom cushions where family and guests can lounge. Wood accents and a large zebra rug stand out from the white background.



The master bedroom is centered around a Moroccan rug hanging behind the bed, acting as an oversized headboard. Its natural colors and patterns complement the ranch design found throughout the home and ties together with the animal hides. Sliding glass doors lead directly to the porch and the river beyond, making the master bedroom the perfect place to wake up with the sun.

One of the most striking objects in the guestroom is the tapestry that hangs above the bed in the place of a headboard. Its natural colors and simple patterns stand out from the crisp white walls and create a calm retreat at the end of the day. The built-in side table adds a natural wood element and highlights the industrial light fixture while keeping the floor space clear and minimal.

