

Light Ideas

Sunrooms can be sophisticated and have four-season appeal. **BY MARNI ELYSE KATZ**



- › Don't fight the light, says Beacon Hill interior designer Tricia McDonagh. Dark colors defeat the purpose of a sunroom.
- › Use materials and accessories that bring the outdoors in (at left). Here, McDonagh chose some wicker furniture, natural linen upholstery, and 19th-century botanical paintings.
- › Since this room adjoins the living room and is used for entertaining, McDonagh went with slightly more formal furniture than is typical in a sunroom.
- › Make space for a dining table if you can, McDonagh says, and then use it: A candlelight dinner is especially magical in a snowstorm.



- › This sunroom (above) is used as a common area in a summer home shared by three sisters and their families; its octagonal shape reinforces the communal purpose, says architect Richard Renner, of Richard Renner Architects in Sherborn and Portland, Maine.
- › Extending the sunroom from a corner of the house means 180-degree views and gives anyone inside the feeling of being close to the landscape.
- › A compass laid in ceramic floor tiles helps orient visitors.



- › A fireplace (above) establishes this sunroom as a second living room, says architect Michael Samra of Studio Troika in Malden.
- › Screened and glazed window panels are interchangeable according to the season.
- › Samra's design flipped the roof to avoid blocking second-story bedroom windows, but there's another bonus: Water collects in the V of the roof when it rains and drips onto a granite block, providing a wonderful sound.

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