

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Create A Three-Season Getaway In One Weekend

(NAPSA)—A “staycation” is a vacation that’s spent at home enjoying all your home has to offer.

One way to make your next staycation—or any time spent at home—more enjoyable is to create a three-season porch or retrofit an existing open porch. A few simple measurements and a free weekend is all it takes.

Porches can be a haven from everyday turmoil.

On a porch, you are connected to the outdoors and yet close to everything indoor for total convenience. Protected from sun, insects and inclement weather, the porch allows one to refresh and relax without distractions. It’s great for entertaining, sleeping, reading or just unwinding. Some three-season porchs even feature wood-burning stoves to create cozy winter retreats.

Most people prefer a three-season porch that retains the look and feel of a traditional porch and uses the highest-quality cedar and cypress. Known for its beautiful grain and durability, these woods may be painted, stained or left untouched for years of continuous use.

Unlike Florida rooms and four-season glassed-in additions, a porch is not considered living space and code restrictions may not apply. Screens and tempered storm glass may be swapped from the inside to protect from inclement weather and insects.



Three-season porchs are a great place to entertain, sleep, read or just unwind. They can be a haven from the everyday world.

A wide variety of architectural inserts may be selected to enhance the look from the outside.

Whether historic, modern, new or retrofit, companies such as Vixen Hill offer such versatility in a pre-engineered package that’s as enduring and beautiful as it is easy to install. Homeowners can find inspirational ideas online at VixenHill.com or can speak to a porch specialist at (800) 423-2766 for a free design consultation.

Hot Builder Tip

Retrofitting a three-season porch just got easier. The “Dittmar Beam” is a header beam, designed to facilitate the easy retrofit of three-season porch panels. It is a simple “sandwich” of three 2 x X planks, which form a U-channeled header beam for roof rafters on top and tenoned posts below that seamlessly accept porch panels.