

Painted by the homeowner's mother, colorful palm trees welcome guests entering the foyer. Table: CAI Designs; Rug: Chatham House Lifestyle Gallery

OUT OF THE ASHES

Following a devastating fire, Armina Kasprowicz, principal designer at *Armina Interiors* in Rochester Hills, received a call from her clients that their 5,000 square-foot home sustained extensive smoke damage. "After we surveyed the destruction, we determined that this would be the perfect opportunity to overhaul the whole house," Kasprowicz explained. "We could expand areas that weren't working for the clients' lifestyle, as well as put underused exterior spaces to use."

The original interior design included traditional, dark wood beams and an array of antique French pieces the clients purchased during their travels. "I worked with these clients before on another project, so I knew they were looking for more of an open-air, ocean-inspired atmosphere," the designer says. Kasprowicz replaced the wooden door at the entrance of the home and installed windows and a glass door. "The home originally had small windows and the entry wasn't open at all," she says. "I wanted to break down the indoor/outdoor barrier, so I selected a glass front door that reveals a view of the back yard even when you walk up the stairs."