

Outdoor Living

Sandy and Dan Levine always loved the serenity of their backyard at their home in Hoover, but they wanted to maximize their space by expanding the patio and adding an outdoor kitchen and fireplace. They worked with Oak Leaf Landscaping to design and build a beautiful outdoor living area. The couple says they now spend as much time outside as they do indoors.



1 Dan wanted the kitchen to be part of their outdoor entertainment area, so he never would have to be far from the action while grilling. The refrigerator next to the grill is essential for keeping beer and soda handy on hot summer days, and the large storage area under the grill is the perfect place to keep grilling tools. Since installation, the grill, fridge, and storage cabinet—all from Allsouth Appliance—have been in constant use for the family.

2 Sandy worked with a designer from Summer Classics to find just the right furniture for the space. With goals of comfort and an earthy style in mind, the couple selected large wicker chairs that are comfortable, weather-proof, and timeless.

3 The Levine's 15-year-old cocker spaniel Smokey is never far from the action, whether he is keeping an eye out for Dan to drop something while cooking, laying on

the cool stone at Sandy's feet, or sneaking onto the comfy chairs when no one is looking.

4 One of the couple's favorite features is the large fireplace with built-in wood boxes. Since the fireplace features a convenient gas starter, and the wood is close by, there's always an excuse to get the fire going for late night chats on the patio.

5 An oak mantel, from reclaimed wood business Evolutia in Birmingham, serves as a grand centerpiece to the space. The hand-hewn beam was taken from an old barn in Ohio and adds the perfect rustic accent to the space. ■

DETAILS

oakleafservices.com
allsouthappliance.net
evolutiamade.com
summerclassics.com