

# playing it cool

*A curvy, low-slung house in Beverly Hills gets a glamorous makeover that updates swinging 1960s style for a new century*

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**ADAM SANDERSON AND RICH ROSS** came to Los Angeles from New York City in 1994 with a fully formed California Dream in their back pockets. Their romance in and with Manhattan had been a happy one, and as entertainment-industry superstars—Sanderson is now a top Disney executive and Ross is president of Discovery Channel—they figured that, as Sanderson puts it, “if we were going to uproot ourselves, our goal should be a real L.A. lifestyle.”

As they climbed the ladder in Hollywood, they settled in a Normandy-style château, perfectly lovely but not quite right. Their hearts were always scouting for a house that fulfilled their fantasy, one that reminded them of why they had moved across the country in the first place: a cool, modern perch with a spectacular view and huge, airy rooms. “Spanish-style houses in L.A. tend to be cut up into a lot of small spaces,” says Ross. “We wanted a real sense of openness and flow. A place where we could bring the outside in when we wanted.” >



















They found their ideal hideaway in the legendary neighborhood known as Trousdale Estates, at the highest elevation in Beverly Hills. It was created in the 1950s when the acreage of Jazz Age oil baron Edward Doheny was sold off and subdivided. (Greystone, the Tudor mansion Doheny built for his son on the land, still stands; it's now part of a city park.) Over the years, the enclave's residents have included Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, Jennifer Aniston, and Ellen DeGeneres.

The houses in the neighborhood were designed by some famed midcentury architectural talents, among them Frank Lloyd Wright, Wallace Neff, and A. Quincy Jones. At the time, the local architectural committee mandated that the homes be built on one level to preserve the view, an ordinance that continues to this day, though many have been radically altered or rebuilt entirely.

