

before & after remodel

## design secrets for doubling your space

With a clever addition, a modest house in Rosemary Beach, Florida, becomes a functional, modern beach pad



### THE PROBLEM

The duplex cottage's two floors, each with two rooms connected by a center hall, was not large enough for this family.

### THE SOLUTION

The house now has a remodeled kitchen and family-friendly living space. Large master and guest suites have spacious baths and bedrooms that offer a soothing escape.

### we love...

LOUVERED SHUTTERS that reduce the sun's harsh rays. They look great from the outside, breaking up the mass of white stucco, and help keep air flowing inside.

A MIX OF TEXTURES. Stone and teak, natural and man-made—They all work together throughout the space to give the house a modern, environmentally conscious edge.

PHOTOGRAPHER DEBORAH WHITLAW LLEWELLYN STYLIST LYNN NEWMITH

## living room

The new two-story space connects the original cottage through the doors to the right of the fireplace to a new wing containing bedrooms and baths.





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**kitchen**  
The island and cabinet doors are veneered with stacked pieces of oak.



RETAINING THE NATURE  
OF THE DOGTROT COTTAGE  
WAS AS MUCH ABOUT  
ECONOMY AS SENTIMENT.  
IF THE ORIGINAL STRUCTURE  
HAD BEEN DEMOLISHED,  
IT WOULD HAVE ENDED UP  
IN A LANDFILL

### project details

**WHAT THEY KEPT** The footprint of the house, which became the model for a new, mid-size dogtrot cottage, connected to the original structure with a walkway. The exterior concrete-block walls between the kitchen and the new addition were updated with a hand-travelled stucco finish. A deep overhang above the new construction reads the new living room with the existing porch.

**WHAT THEY SALVAGED** To recycle what they could, the homeowners refurbished and repurposed the kitchen's old cabinets as storage in the children's bunk room. Custom details, such as 12-inch-deep base cabinets (about half the depth of typical cabinets) along one wall, give the small kitchen more space. Because the only stairwell was outside, a new one was added inside.

**WHAT THEY SCRAPPED** Not much—the project was to subvert but to create as little waste as possible.

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master bath

One entire upstairs bedroom became the master suite's bath. The space behind the tiled half-walls was the original bath, which was so small that the sink had to be in the old bedroom (inset).



BEFORE LEVEL

NOW LEVEL

the quick list

THEN

Single bedroom cottage  
No living room

One bedroom and small bath

Single exterior staircase

Upstairs veranda

NOW

Bigger, double bedroom house  
Large atrium-like living space that connects the dining area and the sleeping quarters

Master and guest suites on the second floor; two bedrooms on the first floor

Interior stairs within the living space

Enclosed upstairs porch that's framed by Dovecot's pillars

**we love...**  
A NATURALLY INDULGENT FEELING from the master suite's plush, tufted mattress, mood lighting, frosted entryway lockers, glass shower walls, and floor-to-ceiling mirrors. **THAT MIRROR!** It reflects light from the window and has a frame built to match.





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This  
bedroom was  
once  
a porch!

*see the "before"*  
→



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