

The Plan Collection Offers House Plans for Summer BBQ and Outdoor Living Spaces

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STAMFORD, CT—(May 1, 2013)—The Plan Collection (TPC), the leading online house plan provider, says Americans are choosing [house plans](#) or renovations that include comfortable outdoor living spaces and outdoor kitchens. Today, Americans are increasingly seeking a more urban lifestyle and with this comes an interest in outdoor living spaces.

According to the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), *"What Home Buyers Really Want,"* just eight percent of those surveyed want to live in a city center, 36 percent prefer the outer suburbs, 30 percent the close-in suburbs and 27 percent still want the old-fashioned, rural American living."

"The trend in [outdoor living](#) that began a few years ago continues today inspiring home owners to think beyond terraces and decks and traditional courtyards. Instead, spaces today have the functions of an indoor room—better furnishings, fire pits, curtains, and even televisions and audio systems," said James McNair, president and chief operating officer, [The Plan Collection](#). "Some of today's house plans include chef quality BBQ porches for greater privacy, yet with high-efficiency glass windows and doors to make them energy-smart and seamless with indoor rooms."

Blurring the lines between indoor and outdoor living spaces is the rise in demand for screened porches, which have gained more indoor accoutrements such as fireplaces, making them livable nearly year-round. This encompasses an interest in outdoor food preparation of all kinds—not just a grill, but more elaborate built-in cook's stations with a sink, storage, beer tap, pizza oven, refrigerator, and granite countertops. Some of the latest amenities include hybrid grills that permit cooking with both gas and wood.

With an outdoor covered patio and BBQ in place, home owners who have become more conscious of the trends in healthy, organic living are also planting vegetable gardens that will thrive in their area's soil and climate —with tomatoes, peppers, squash, and herbs like garlic, lemon grass, rosemary and more.

The Plan Collection offers popular outdoor plans for summer living including this [modern house design](#) (Plan #107-1015), featuring a covered outdoor patio with a gourmet BBQ grilling area in its outdoor



kitchen. The fireplace acts as a stunning focal point and its use of rough stone creates a more casual look. At 5,555 square feet, this four-bedroom home is ideal for both family and entertaining.

In the floor plan, the BBQ area connects to the home's indoor kitchen with a windowed pass-through, convenient for food preparation and clean-up. The family room opens up onto covered patio through a wall of glass doors which allow for plenty of light and creating the sense of an even larger space.

The Plan Collection's house plan 107-1015 features a gourmet outdoor kitchen with BBQ grilling area.

About The Plan Collection (<http://www.theplancollection.com>)

The Plan Collection is driven by the simple idea that great house design should be affordable and readily accessible to everyone. The company provides homeowners, prospective homeowners and builders with more than 20,000 house plans selected from the nation's leading designers and architects along with tens of thousands of instructional images and inspirational photos.

From the days of printed house plan books to PCs, the Internet, social media, and now tablets – [The Plan Collection \(TPC\)](#) and its founders have been dedicated to providing users with a better, more convenient and more valuable home building experience. Customers enjoy the benefits of a broad selection of high quality home plans and detailed how-to information, an easy-to-search site and knowledgeable customer service. TPC understands what homeowners are looking for, and delivers better search results to its users. As a result, thousands of houses have been built at a lower cost using pre-drawn house plans that meet homeowners' specific needs and desires.

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