



ADD A FAMILY ROOM

New areas for casual living continue the traditional flavor of the existing house

UNWILLING TO LEAVE A NEIGHBORHOOD THEY loved, Debby and Dan McGinn moved out of one cramped residence into another a few doors down. Why buy another undersized house? Because, thanks to McLean, Va., architect Randall Mars, they knew that this one could be enlarged to suit their needs. Charming as it was, the 60-year-old Colonial lacked the space that the McGinns required for informal gatherings; they needed a family room as well as a larger kitchen and eating area. The only place to add on was at the rear, but Mars was reluctant to simply attach a row of new rooms. This, he says, would have produced a "deep, dark block" in the existing house. Instead he created two wings that now contain the new living areas and gracefully stretch into the garden to embrace a landscaped courtyard.





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ABOVE: Painted a soft blue-gray, classical moldings and a paneled wall in the new family room reflect the Colonial-style architecture of the house. To create these details, Randall Mars used profiles of moldings in existing rooms, then embellished them for added interest. **OPPOSITE BELOW:** The flagstone patio, also designed by Mars, is a sunny setting for dining alfresco or just lounging. **OPPOSITE ABOVE:** The family-room wing is a seamless addition to the dwelling; the traditional lines and hand-laid brick closely match those of the original house. This handsome structure, the patio, and the loggia replace an old garage and a rickety porch (see Before photo).

