



## REALIZING A RETRO RANCH

Consisting of equally important interior and exterior living spaces, this 3000-sq.-ft. mid-century modern-inspired house on 20 acres in the hills just west of San Marcos, Texas, is oriented to take advantage of the wooded views to the north as well as the sunshine to the south and west. Its entire spatial composition supports the solar orientation of the pool and pool deck and natural daylighting within the living, dining, and kitchen spaces. The interior spaces are organized around the central courtyard and pool, with a 26-ft.-wide sliding glass door separating them from the outside when closed and connecting them as a unified entertainment space when open. The goal was to fill the space with indirect light, so a carefully calculated 13-ft. roof overhang allows just the right amount of shade throughout the year. Opposite the courtyard, the large window walls allow forest views to the north. A nod to the region's ubiquitous limestone, mottled white brick lends a familiar tone to the aesthetic. The brick's 2-in. by 12-in. shape accentuates the horizontal aspect of the house's low-slung roof, while a clear cedar accent wall near the entry emphasizes verticality.

**Designer/builder** Chagnon Architecture, [chagnonarch.com](http://chagnonarch.com)  
**Location** San Marcos, Texas  
**Photos** Dror Baldinger, FAIA