

Design 2: Artsy & Aspen

The young family in this East Hills home wanted stylish and comfortable spaces that could effortlessly host a family for movie night or friends for a dinner party. Keith Baltimore, of the Baltimore Design Group, connected the family's love of nature and their visits to Aspen with classic Arts and Crafts details. That meant some rough-meets-refined elements, like a salvaged block of wood hung as a mantle.

By removing a wall near the fireplace that separated the dining room from the living room, Baltimore opened the space up to nearly the width of the home allowing entertaining to flow from one room to the next. "The house was stuck in this 1985 visual that needed to be updated," Baltimore said. "Everything was so compartmentalized and it had to be opened up."

- Stacked ledge stone is a modern take on an Aspen ski lodge.
- Faux ceiling beams in the dining area mimic the real ones in the living room.
- A reclaimed wood mantle wraps around three sides of the fireplace, linking the spaces.
- The square dining room table comes apart to form one long table for entertaining.