

The New American Home 2019

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Photo by Jeffrey A. Davis



Creamy Pecan Pralines

I got this recipe when taking a cooking class at Casa Pelican in NOLA. What I have altered from their recipe is using Steen's pure cane syrup and the amount of pecan halves. This recipe is easy to make but there is no time for distractions once you add the pecans and stir to combine. You must get the mixture out of the pot fast, but not too soon. When we talk about the mixture losing the gloss that's when you must hurry to get the mixture out of the pot. You have about 1 minute to make this happen before the mixture will set in the pot. A second set of hands to help with this process is a good idea. This recipe yields candy shop quality pralines. ENJOY!!

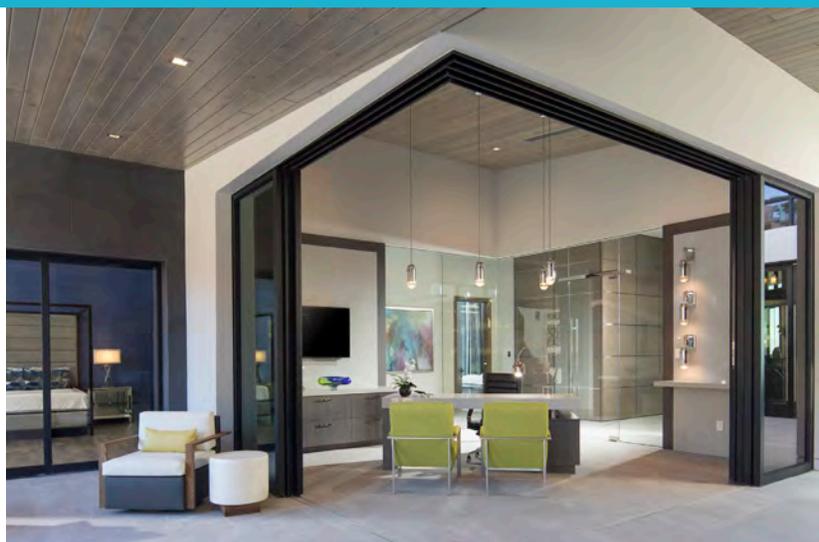
Ingredients

- 2-1/4 cups pecan halves and pieces
- 3 cups of firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 cup of whipping cream
- 1/4 cup of butter
- 2 tablespoons Steen's pure Cane syrup or light corn syrup
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
- Wax paper
- Candy thermometer

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350
2. Bake pecans in a single layer for 8-10 minutes, let them cool completely
3. In a heavy bottom pot, heat the sugar, cream, butter, and syrup stirring constantly, bring the mixture to a boil and boil until the candy thermometer registers 236 degrees (softball stage). Remove from the heat and let cool to 150 degrees.
4. Add the vanilla extract and pecan halves and pieces and stir or beat until the mixture loses its gloss.
5. Quickly scoop and drop heaping spoonful's onto the wax paper. Let them set and cool at room temperature





The New American Home 2019

A home with wide open interior spaces, immense sliding glass doors, seamless transition from indoors to outdoors, and dramatic vistas—this is The New American Home (TNAH) 2019. Each year the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) constructs a spectacular home as an educational tool for professional remodelers, designers and home builders during the International Builders Show. The homes demonstrate new construction technology, green building practices, and stylish design trends. Attendees visit the homes and gather all kinds of unique ideas they can use when designing and building their own clients' projects.

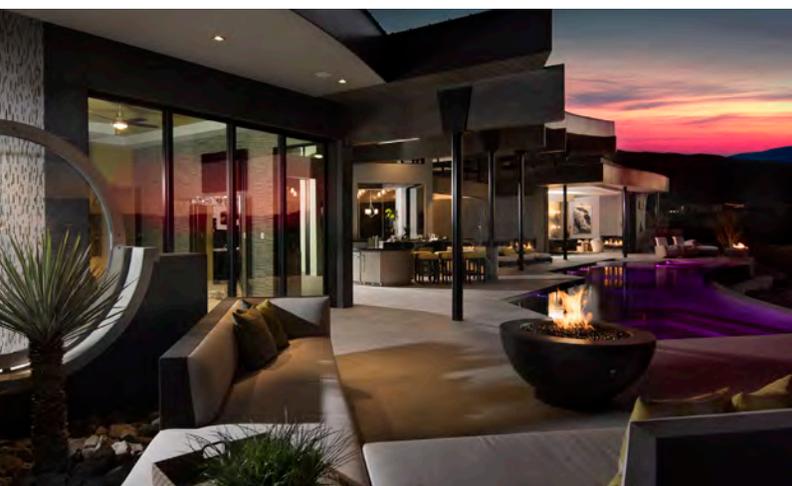
TNAH 2019 is an 8,200-square-foot five bedroom home built on a rock-faced terrace in the hilly outskirts of Las Vegas, NV. To access the home's front entry, you pass through an extensive covered courtyard that is surrounded on all sides by glass doors. These doors open up to create a smooth flow into a fabulous show garage and lounge on the right, as well as a casita and a study on the left.

Once you reach the end of the courtyard and pass through the actual entry door, you immediately find yourself in the sizable kitchen and great room. This space extends without interruption to the outdoor living patio and infinity-edge pool. The pocketing glass patio doors that are 14-foot-tall and up to 20-foot-wide

provide clear openings. Sight lines from the entryway move the eye through the interior spaces out to the breathtaking panoramic view of the Las Vegas Valley beyond. The outdoor area faces north and is designed with deep roof overhangs—therefore protected from excessive heat. It is a comfortable place to relax during the day and on into the evening.

TNAH 2019 includes some very unique aesthetics. The home displays bright bold colors in unexpected locations, which lends that WOW factor. Contemporary light fixtures with dramatic styling present a focal point in every room. A remarkable angled wet bar in the kitchen area juts out into the outdoor patio space as well. The master bedroom suite features an amazing cantilevered bed.

The architecture of this home was developed with the idea of utilizing sustainable building practices and energy-saving components to promote efficiency. For example, the Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index score is 45 (55 percent more energy efficient than code); roof and wall insulation are at R-57 and R-46 (both well above minimum standards); and there is a 58 percent reduction in total water use. TNAH 2019 is designed to exceed the requirements for certification to the Emerald level of the National Green Building Standard (NGBS).



TWO HOT AWARD-WINNING PRODUCTS FROM BEST OF IBS

Photo: Courtesy of GE Appliances (geappliances.com)



The Best of IBS 2019 Awards ceremony took place at the NAHB International Builders Show in Las Vegas. More than 300 entries were received and judged by a panel of 31 independent judges. The winning products displayed

the best combination of design, functionality and innovation. The awards were given in nine categories, but the winners in the following two categories are particularly enjoyable for homeowners to know about when remodeling their homes:

BEST KITCHEN PRODUCT

CAFÉ 5-in-1 Wall Oven with Advantium Technology by GE Appliances

This versatile built-in saves time and space by uniting convection cooking, warming/proofing oven, microwave, toaster oven capabilities and speed-cooking oven with Advantium Technology in a single 30-inch appliance. Advantium Technology cooks the

outside of food like a conventional oven with radiant heat produced by halogen bulbs above and below the food. The halogen-produced heat receives a boost of microwave energy, resulting in food that browns and cooks evenly and fast, while retaining its natural moisture. The oven is WiFi-enabled and features an intuitive, 7-inch, full-color LCD touchscreen display that provides access to hundreds of curated recipes.



Photo: Courtesy of Heat & Glo (heatinglo.com)

BEST INDOOR LIVING PRODUCT

Foundation Series Luxury Gas Fireplace by Heat & Glo

Modern in form and luxurious by design, the Foundation Series brings numerous firsts to the luxury gas fireplace category including: flames twice the height of comparable luxury fireplaces; mirrored glass that gives the perspective of infinite rows of flames; multi-colored chromotherapy LED lighting with a remote control to change lights to different hues; cool-wall construction that allows you to install a TV or other heat-sensitive materials just inches above the fireplace; ability to connect to home automation systems; only UL-approved fireplace in this category for the utmost in safety.

OPEN YOUR WALLS TO THE OUTSIDE

When the inside of your home opens up seamlessly to the outside, it can make a big difference in the impression you have of the space. After retracting your lofty glass doors to one side, the exterior wall basically disappears. You can move throughout your home and not be aware whether you are indoors or outdoors.

An outdoor patio or deck naturally becomes an extension of your living space when those huge doors are open. This is a great benefit when you entertain large groups, and it is a less expensive option than building an addition. The amount of fresh air that wafts into your home gives you the sensation that the indoor spaces are actually outdoors. The fresh air and access to natural light energizes your body and increases your positive vibes.

Enormous glass doors are extremely popular today for transitional as well as contemporary styled homes. Some configurations involve multiple sliding doors that stack behind a single fixed pane. Other multi-slide panels stack and slide into a pocket in the wall completely out of view. Folding doors fold like an accordion on hinges and can be stored either to one or both sides.

Many different frame finishes are available for this type of glass door, including the impressive trend-setting matte black. For energy efficiency and safety, double-glazed low-e tempered glass is typically used. If your area is apt to have extreme heat or cold, you may want to consider triple-glazed glass instead. Select impact-resistant glass if your area often experiences high winds. Consider installing retractable screens if your environment is prone to insects.

Photo: Courtesy of Hampstead (www.hampsteadwindows.com)



Photo: Courtesy of Andersen (www.andersenwindows.com)



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Creamy Pecan Pralines

RDI Kitchen Remodel

The New American Home '19

Open Walls to the Outside



Remodeling Designs, Inc.
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Washington Township Kitchen Remodel

Our client has a very impressive home with contemporary lines, and spacious rooms. They love to entertain but the one area of the house that was lacking was the “wow” factor in the kitchen. For the size of the house, the kitchen was under scaled and closed-in. Our objective was to open the kitchen up to the dining room, raise the ceiling in the breakfast room to match the vault in the kitchen, and open the bar area to the living room. All of these objectives would allow for easier entertaining and better flow to the public spaces.

The existing kitchen was efficient, but it was tight if there was more than one cook. The homeowner always worried about cooking around a crowd because the cook top wasn't far from the general walkway. Moving the doorway and walkway approximately 36" gave us more room to expand the island.

The new kitchen was brighter, felt more spacious, and was much more updated. Our designer, Beth Spegal made a huge impact with material selections. Oversized subwaytile, lighter Cambria countertops, and rich, wood floors make this room the stunning space that it is.

Raising a ceiling can visually open up the space and make a room feel so much larger. We added a window to match the other side of the loft and bring in more natural light.

A new, flat screen TV and buffet area kept the contemporary feel while giving them some storage and a place for serving food when gathering smaller crowds. It was also an opportunity to make the cabinets feel more like a piece of furniture by changing the finish from the rest of the kitchen.

The new open design allowed for better traffic flow through the kitchen, to the dining room, and around to the bar. Guests could be closer to the action in the kitchen but still remain out of the way.



The bar area was already organized and a fantastic space for any serious entertainer. The problem was that the beverage cooler was in the kitchen and not in the bar. We incorporated a wine cooler in the upper area of an old closet and a Subzero refrigerator drawer appliance below it. The bar now allows for all drinks and cocktails, no matter your taste, to be orchestrated from this spot and away from the food preparation.

The homeowner wanted one final change to the bar area and that was to open it up more to the living room. Due to the framing of the loft, it was decided to create a pass-through between the two spaces. This was the most cost effective way to create a ledge for the guests to stand at and visit, and for us to properly support the load above.

This major project changed the way the entire area functioned for our clients. Entertaining was easy and the three public spaces flowed much easier now. It was a challenging, fun, and beautiful project. The kitchen became brighter and far more open than they could have ever imagined was possible.

