

Better Homes and Gardens®

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\$3.99



MOD LIGHTS

A covered pergola allows for indoor lighting. Bentwood Pendants, \$189 each; westelm.com

Diana (on couch) and Vojin Vujosevic (in back) toast summer on their deck with friends Milosh and Maxim. Deep-cushion seating and a rolling teak bar invite lounging.



decked-out deck

All the comforts of inside move outside for a Cape Cod summer.

BY KAREN WEIR-JIMERSON
PHOTOS MATTHEW BENSON
PRODUCED BY KARIN LIDBECK-BRENT

When summer arrives in Cape Cod, the Vujosevic family—Diana, Vojin, and twin sons Vidan and Niko—bid farewell to their kitchen and family room and spend most waking hours in their backyard. “We virtually live outdoors,” Diana says. But no one is roughing it. Their outdoor space sports indoor comforts: cushy seating, rugs underfoot, a fireplace and cooking zone—even a shower.

“I like the fact that our deck looks like an indoor living space,” Diana says. “Artwork on the wall, lamps, pillows, books on the table—those are the details that give it life.” Weatherproof, deep-seated cushions top teak couches, chairs, and an ottoman. Orange toss pillows add citrusy splashes of color. And a retractable screen tempers nature’s extremes—glaring sun and buzzing insects.

The Vujosevics’ outdoor kitchen is the hub of summer activity. Meal prep and family time happen in the same place. “It’s just great to be outside together all the time,” Vojin says. Meals are as relaxed as the surroundings. For family times or gatherings with friends, all hands are on deck.



AT HOME WITH Vojin and Diana Vujosevic of Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts.

PERSONAL STYLE Clean, contemporary, comfortable. Accessories add color.

BEST DECISION Plushing up outdoor spaces with indoor flair: pillows, rugs, lighting.

SMART DECK FEATURE Corrugated fiberglass roof panels covering the pergola to keep rain out but let light in.

HOT COMMODITY
A specialty outdoor grill on the deck also serves up ambience and warmth on chilly evenings.

Food with flourish!
A simple bouquet of croton, *Alocasia*, palm, and banana leaves is Diana's tropical finishing touch on the table.

Vojin, founder and co-owner of Pain D'Avignon bakery and Café Boulangerie in Hyannis, Massachusetts, grills sausages (a family favorite) over a charcoal fire, above. Dinner at home always includes an assortment of breads from the bakery with olive oil for dipping. Other menu mainstays include simple salads, grilled veggies, and artisanal cheeses. Late evening embers inspire the kids' favorite summertime dessert: s'mores.

SCREEN SCENE

Motorized screens retract into a hood concealed inside the pergola. Price varies by size; miragescreen.com



ROCK OUT
For extra seating, the Vujosevics pull out a favorite indoor chair.



SPLISH, SPLASH
An open-air shower promotes good, clean fun.

The family deck is summer central for meals and just hanging out. Niko and friend Miley challenge each other to a game of dominoes on an upholstered ottoman that doubles as a game table, *above left*.



STOW IN STYLE
A painted, shuttered hutch (a flea market find) keeps picnic supplies at hand.

Simple suppers

Make dinner outdoors a regular thing. Here's how Vojin and Diana dish up low-fuss alfresco meals:

READY-MADE BUFFET

Diana packs the table with easy-prep foods like pâtés, olives, and cheeses. "It's easy and relaxed," she says.

COOK AND CHAT

Everything else for the meal comes right off the grill. "An outdoor kitchen lets us mingle while we cook," Vojin says.

CLEAN PALETTE CLUB

Diana favors white—dishes, serving pieces, linens—so everything matches effortlessly. The neutral tone also keeps the focus on food and flowers.

QUICK TIDYING UP

Clean plates and linens are stowed in the outdoor hutch for the next meal. "Most everything else can just be hosed off," Vojin says. ■

Summer entertaining is all about keeping things simple (yet sumptuous) so the focus can be on enjoying family and friends. Diana sets the table, *above*, with a beautiful array of grilled foods, crisp salads, wine, and fresh bakery bread.

Just steps from the deck, Vojin prepares food for the grill in the outdoor kitchen under the playful supervision of twins Vidan and Niko. The walkway is covered in crushed oyster shells, a local material in Cape Cod.

