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# First and FOREMOST

Erik Tinker's first luxury spec home hits the market.

*By Nora Burba Trulsson  
Photography by Eric Krup*

At 38, builder and developer Erik Tinker is new to the luxury home market. But his newly completed 7,400-square-foot spec home in Paradise Valley—listed at close to \$4 million—has hit it out of the ballpark.

"This is Erik's first foray into the luxury building process," says Phoenix architect Jim Blochberger, who designed the house and admits he was a tad wary when first approached by Tinker, due to his lack of high-end projects. "His commitment to the project, attention to detail and delivering the product was outstanding. He really did a great job with this."

The home—a rambling, Santa Barbara-influenced design that angles around a pool and casita—is the summation of Tinker's career so far. The SoCal native started out doing mortgage loans, then went to real estate school. He worked managing rehabs for a real estate company, realized he liked the building process and went on to become a licensed general contractor. When doing renovations and additions became a little tedious, he began branching out into new-home construction. "This," says Tinker, "is the fourth new house I've done."

Tinker found the flat 1-acre lot in the Paradise Valley foothills, separated from the landmark McCune Mansion by a deep wash, dense with mesquites and paloverdes, and a steep hillside. Blochberger came up with the home's indoor-outdoor design, opening it up to both front and rear patios. The split floor plan spins off a central great room, formal dining room and kitchen, which also includes a breakfast area. One wing includes the master suite and a bedroom that could be used as a home office. On the opposite side, three en suite bedrooms and a media room make up another wing, connected to a casita guesthouse, which could be used for everything from an art studio to a meditation space.

Developer-builder Erik Tinker worked with architect Jim Blochberger and K&Q Interiors to create an airy Santa Barbara-style home. The great room, warmed by a fireplace, opens to front and back patios.



« “We picked up on the home’s architecture and gave the interior a light, bright look.”

—STACY SCHARF, INTERIOR DESIGNER »



From left: A soaking tub in the master bathroom has a view of a private courtyard; the roomy kitchen has two islands, featuring quartz and walnut countertops.



In elevation, Blochberger used elements such as thick, plastered walls, staggered massing, two-piece clay tile roofing, wood beams and deeply recessed windows to evoke elements of Santa Barbara style.

The architect also made sure that the house had “hot-button items” that luxury home buyers seek, such as a motor court, a four-car garage, a formal dining room, a separate media room, a drop zone between the garage and kitchen, roomy closets, and a laundry room large enough to accommodate dual washers and dryers.

Inside, Tinker and Blochberger worked with Scottsdale interior designers Stacy Scharf and Kacie Lilley of K&Q Interiors, who selected finishes, cabinetry, millwork and architectural design pieces to complete the home’s vision. “We picked up on the home’s architecture and gave the interior a light, bright look,” says Scharf. “We

also brought in some traditional and Spanish design elements.”

The designers chose a palette of creams and dove gray, accented by darker wood finishes. They underscored the interior with chiseled travertine flooring in the public spaces and used a grayed oak in other rooms. To link the outdoors—which made use of antique brick paving—with the interior, the design team added brick detailing to fireplaces, the entryway floor and the dramatic arched ceiling in the dining room.

In the kitchen, traditional/transitional custom cabinetry, plus quartz and walnut countertops on two islands, were designed for serious cooking and entertaining. Nearby, a bar offers plenty of indoor seating and opens to the patio as well. In the sun-splashed master bath, the designers went for a luxe spa appeal, with a freestanding soaking tub, ornately tiled walk-in shower and a seated vanity.



A barn door conceals the laundry room, which is large enough for dual washers and dryers.



The master bedroom is framed by a beamed ceiling and has views of the grassy backyard. The furnishings were chosen for their transitional lines and silvery hues.





From top: Greey|Pickett created an outdoor setting for the house that encourages entertaining. The pool, with a spa and fountain elements, adds a cooling touch; the home's media room opens onto a shaded outdoor dining area.

"We deliberately chose neutrals for the backgrounds," says Lilley, "so that potential buyers can add their own accent colors through furniture and art. And, while the finishes are luxurious, they are all user-friendly."

Outdoors, Greey|Pickett developed a landscape that encourages entertaining. The house, set far back from the street, afforded the opportunity to develop a large brick patio area in the front—defined by planter beds and low walls—that's accessible from the dining and great rooms via bifold glass doors. The same glass doors open up the house to the backyard, where an outdoor kitchen, dining and living areas are shaded by deep overhangs. A pool with spa and fountains cools the space, and there's just enough grass for kids, dogs and special events.

Completed in eight months, Tinker's house awaits a buyer. But he's not resting on his development laurels. Along with his same design team, he's building the house next door, this time in an angular, contemporary design. Soon, it too will be on the market. ■





# DESIGN DETAILS

## RESIDENCE

Single-family home

## LOCATION

6115 N. 38th Place, Paradise Valley

## PRICE

\$3.997 million

## LISTING

Kris McLaughlin, North&Co.  
kris@northandco.com,  
602.714.7000, northandco.com

## ARCHITECTURE

Jim Blochberger,  
Blochberger Design  
blochbergerdesign.com

## BUILDER

Erik Tinker, Tinker Development  
tinkerdevelopment.com

## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

GreelyPickett  
greepickett.com

## INTERIOR DESIGN

Stacy Scharf and Kacie Lilley,  
K&Q Interiors  
kandqinteriors.com

## FURNITURE STAGING

Revamp Professional Home Stages  
getrevamped.com

## POOL

Dolphin Pools  
dolphinpools.us

## VENDORS

### FERGUSON

Plumbing fixtures  
ferguson.com

### HINKLEY'S LIGHTING FACTORY

Light fixtures  
hinkleyslighting.com

### SIERRA PACIFIC WINDOWS

Windows and glass doors  
sierrapacificwindows.com

### SUB-ZERO AND WOLF

Kitchen appliances  
subzero-wolf.com

### U-LINE

Outdoor appliances  
u-line.com

The formal dining room opens to the front patio. Its arched brick ceiling reflects the patio materials.