

Fact Sheet: Consumer Survey on Outdoor Living

Outdoor Living Spaces: More Popular Than Ever

- Approximately two in five homeowners (42 percent) report to have a finished outdoor room, up from 35 percent three years ago in 2005.
- About two-thirds of homeowners with finished outdoor rooms (64 percent) say they strongly or somewhat agree that they are spending more time in their outdoor rooms as compared to a few years ago.

Outdoor Rooms Have Many Uses

- By about a two-to-one ratio, homeowners with finished outdoor rooms say that they are likely to use such rooms for everyday living and use (61 percent) as compared to mainly for special events and entertaining guests (36 percent). Either way, about half (52 percent) report to be more likely to use their outdoor room for everyday living and use as compared to a few years ago.

How Often Homeowners Use Outdoor Room For Specific Activities		
	Regularly	Sometimes
To relax	52%	40%
To grill or prepare a meal	45%	41%
To entertain guests	33%	52%
To eat a meal	26%	52%
For recreation (like swimming, soaking in a hot tub, or playing games)	22%	25%

Not Just For the Summer

- Of those who currently have a finished outdoor room, a third (33 percent) report to use it year-round.
- As would be expected, those living in the South (42 percent) and West (48 percent) are significantly more likely to say that they use their outdoor rooms year-round as compared to those in other parts of the country (18 percent Northeast, 15 percent North Central).

Spaces Are Used Year-Round

- Whether they use it year-round or only during the warm months, most homeowners with finished outdoor rooms report to use it at least a couple times a week or more (76 percent). Specifically, 28 percent say they use it every day, and about half (48 percent) say they use it a couple times a week.
- Women are more likely than men to report to use their outdoor rooms every day (35 percent versus 19 percent, respectively).

Propane Products Add to the Quality of an Outdoor Room

- When it comes to adding to the quality of living in their outdoor rooms, a variety of propane-fueled products are seen as being able to have a significant effect, as detailed in the table below. Mosquito eliminators or bug zappers top the list, followed by outdoor lighting and fire pits.

Percentage That Say Each Adds “A Great Deal” or “Some” Effect to Quality of Living of Outdoor Room	
Mosquito eliminator or bug zapper	61%
Fire pit, outdoor fireplace, or chiminea	53%
Outdoor lighting such as gas lamps	53%
Permanent, built-in gas grill	48%
Freestanding or tabletop patio heater	37%

About the Survey

The survey was conducted March 20-24, 2008 for the Propane Education & Research Council to gauge product popularity of outdoor living spaces or gas-powered products using Opinion Research Corporation CARAVAN® Omnibus Survey. A nationally representative sample of 756 homeowners participated in these telephone interviews.

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