

The recurring allure of mid-century modern architecture

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While Abrams says mid-century homes that have a contemporary feel are popular, she is quick to point out that these minimal homes have their drawbacks for today's homebuyers including limited kitchens, dysfunctional bathrooms and small master bedrooms. She said there can be a problem when floor plans need to be altered significantly, but true mid-century modern enthusiasts are willing to deal with that issue.

"Nothing about them is what modern people want except the style and they are so pretty," Abrams said. "They (buyers) absolutely still see the challenge of it. They make the sacrifice."

Most of the time, buyers will transform the small kitchens into larger, entertaining kitchens that are mainstays of homes today, Abrams said. Luckily, spacious and lavish dining rooms were the norm in the 1950s, so those mid-century modern rooms fit the current housing trend.

What mid-century modern homes lack in room size, they make up for in scale and proportion, according to Battersby, who said they are very efficient and livable houses. She doesn't see the popularity of these homes fading anytime soon.

"People go nuts over them. They appreciate the original features," she said. "It takes the right buyer. There is a big demand. I think there was a movement back then that was really popular and there is a resurgence right now."



Photo courtesy Regina Englehart

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