

# Stanford Street Townhouse

Houston, Texas



When renovating a middling 1970s townhouse in the Montrose neighborhood of Houston, designer Chris Nguyen added a modern edge by subtracting existing elements to optimize flow and functionality. He took the spaces down to the studs, excised closets, and tore down walls. “Borrowing from Dieter Rams’s mantra of ‘as little design as possible,’ my own philosophy could be informally

described as ‘just enough design as necessary.’ I kept lines straight, hardware spare, and anything built-in, such as cabinetry, featureless” he says. “I just removed things until I knew an Eames Compact sofa would look right at home.” Other modern classics furnishing Nguyen’s space include a Bertoia Bird chair, Franco Albini ottoman, and Tolix bar stools. □

PHOTOS BY CHRIS NGUYEN