

European Import

Reclaimed paneling gets new life as flooring in Texas home



Wood: Pine | Finish: Irewax paste wax | Sealer: Dura Seal Flooring Contractor: Schenck and Company (Houston)

he owner of this suburban Houston home knew exactly what she wanted for the floors of her 1930s home addition. "She wanted a floor to look like it had been there 100 years," says Greg Schenck, owner of Houston-based Schenck and Company.* The homeowner worked with an importer to find 300-year-old pine paneling from a historic European building. The boards were stripped of their old finish, then milled into ultra-wide plank flooring. The 18-inch-wide flooring consisted of three 6-inch planks side-glued together.

The owner then called in Schenck to install, sand and finish the flooring. Because the floors needed to look old, Schenck skipped the drum sander and instead used a light screen on the buffer. He then custom-mixed a white stain and applied three coats of penetrating sealer. For the final Old World touch, Schenck topped the floors with paste wax. The end result what just what the owner wanted—a simple, yet elegant, aged floor. — C.L.