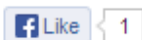


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Alan Luxmore's Fix This Yard Renovates Reality TV

BY Reese Harlan | MARCH 03, 2013



In the ever-growing mix of cable reality shows, it has become increasingly difficult to find a captivating show that doesn't rely on sensationalized camera tricks, space swaps and concocted conflicts to reel in unsuspecting viewers. Fortunately, for do-it-yourselfers who prefer substance over spectacle, A&E has revived a third season of the hit show *Fix This Yard*, starring Alan Luxmore as the captivating host who successfully combines real-life results with much needed makeovers.

While most people may recognize Alan from features on mega makeover shows like *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* and the ABC spinoff *Makeover Home Edition – How'd They Do That*, few realize that he is an extremely skilled carpenter and project manager who

had an integral part in *Extreme Makeover's* Emmy win for "Outstanding Reality Program" in 2005 and 2006. While viewers were tuned in for the emotional unveiling the new house, he was busy behind the scenes overseeing everything from the moment the backhoe hit the old house, until the locks were installed on the new one. In fact, Alan's success building a new home in less than 100 hours is arguably the fastest build time in television history.

In between setting records and supporting Emmy award-winning shows, Alan joins his co-host Amy Devers (whom many may recognize from the hit show *Trading Spaces*), to find unhappy neighbors to star in his hit show.

After disgruntled neighbors point out the landscaping eyesore next door, Alan's team swoops in to add curb appeal to unsightly properties. Unlike the myriad of renovation and makeover shows he has supported in the past (HGTV's *The Outdoor Room*, CMT's *Mobile Home Disaster*, and TNT's *Wedding Day* to name a few), Alan's involvement in *Fix This Yard* is a personal and professional accomplishment that has given him a unique opportunity to move from behind the scenes to front and center stage.

According to Alan, being the charismatic host is as difficult as managing huge projects. "Being a host is harder than it looks, but working with Amy [Devers] makes it easier," he admits. "It's great because I've grown to respect her more over the past three seasons. As a carpenter, I respect that she knows her way around when it comes to production. But on the other hand, we have our opinions and sometimes we might disagree from a designer versus project manager position. We don't always see eye to eye and that comes across on screen."

And it's that unpredictable relationship that adds the extra spice to the reality renovation show.

Cast dynamics aren't the only things that keep this show spicy. Since the first season, viewers have flooded the Internet with speculation about Alan's rugged looks and relationship status. Seemingly surprised by fans referring to him as a "smoldering hunk," he takes the compliments in stride and although he admits having "someone special" in his life, he remains elusive about whom that is and what that means.

Although Alan may be a man of few words when it comes to his personal life, he is optimistically vocal about his future endeavors. In addition to working on future seasons of *Fix My Yard* and pitching new renovation shows to A&E, he works on smaller projects in his spare time and encourages homeowners to stay positive, no matter how negative the outlook may appear.

So what piece of advice does Alan have for homeowners in an unstable market? Alan says the best thing they can do in a downtrodden market is to stay positive and diligent. He says, "There are always things that people can do to increase their property despite a declining property market. In tough times, it's a good time to make sensible renovations because you get quality items and services cheaper due to lower demand. The market will turn and history repeats itself, but landscaping is a great way to increase the value of the property and improve chances of selling property."

We can dig it.

To get more home renovation tips and check out bonus episodes of Alan in action, go to www.aetv.com or tune in on Saturdays 10:30 Eastern.