



# Minimalist Style Meets Off-Grid Living in This Ever-Changing Maui Home

Graham Hill designed a stylish 1,000-square-foot (93-square-meter) home that shapeshifts in novel ways to function like a house twice its size.



The urban lifestyle of Manhattan and the laid-back living of Maui share nothing in common—on the surface, that is. It was city life—or more specifically, the tiny footprint of city apartments—that led Graham Hill to create LifeEdited Maui, a small home that leaves a big impression.

An internet tech and business entrepreneur, Hill had been living in New York City in a spacious loft in the 2000s. By the time he sold his successful sustainability and design website TreeHugger in 2007, Hill had created a virtual office where all employees worked remotely, including himself. He traveled the world, soon realizing how little one needs to not only survive but also thrive. In 2010, he launched LifeEdited, a development firm that designs hyper-efficient, small-scale homes with moving parts—think sliding walls and expandable furniture—and subsequently debuted

the prototype for LifeEdited Maui. It was called LifeEdited 1, and it was a 420-square-foot (39-square-meter) studio in Manhattan that performed like a space much larger than its dimensions. “We gain a lot when we go small,” Hill says. “It’s all about smart, flexible design.”

LifeEdited 1 (LE1) inspired LE2, an even smaller unit in the same building, and eventually LifeEdited Maui (LEM). Hill’s cousin had lived on Maui for 20 years, and on one of his frequent visits to her place in Haiku, she offered to sell Hill a few acres of her land. Hill’s goal was to create a structure based on tiny home design principles that was off-grid and had minimal environmental impact.