

Remodeling Tips



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Courtesy of D&D Scarborough Inc.
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Photo: By James F. Wilson/The New American Home 2006



The Great Outdoors

*"Oh, give me land,
lots of land under
starry skies above.
Don't fence me in!"*



Homeowners today can easily resonate with the well-loved song by Cole Porter...but in their minds they usually replace the word land with words like courtyard, deck, or patio.

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Remove Stress and Add Value

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Think about how much time you spend in your bathroom. It's the place where you transform yourself from the walking dead to the great achiever every morning. It's also the source of many a conflict in the home, from who's going to use the shower first to who has the largest shampoo bottle collection, not to mention the age-old question of whether the seat should be left up or down. Just think how much easier your life would be if you had a bathroom made for you and your life-style. Or better yet, if you had an extra bathroom so you could leave the seat the way it should be (in your opinion, anyway).

Remodeling your bathroom isn't just a way to take stress out of your life, it's also a good investment. A remodeled bathroom is a great asset when you want to sell your home. According to *Remodeling* magazine, homebuyers view bathroom remodeling as a major project and prefer that the work be done before they buy. And since it takes a comparatively small amount of

time and money to make an old, dark bathroom bright and new, you get a great return on your investment.

In a short amount of time, we can equip your bathroom with a new bathtub, toilet, vanity, sink, lighting, medicine cabinet and tile floor. Or go for the major luxuries and add skylights, larger windows, include a dressing room or install a whirlpool tub. And the best part is, with **D & D Scarborough** you can remodel without taking a bath financially.

Call D & D Scarborough today toll free at **866-993-6846** and let us show you how we can take stress out of your life and increase the value of your home.



The Great Outdoors

(continued from page 1)

We love to push away the walls of our home and open up our living space to the fresh air. The sights, sounds and pleasant aromas mingle with an exhilarating sense of freedom that refreshes mind and body.

This kind of feeling is experienced as you step from the family room of the 2006 New American Home into the adjacent ground floor loggia. Floor-to-ceiling retractable glass doors disappear into the sidewalls, creating a 16-foot-wide opening. The family room literally extends now into the outdoor loggia. The transition flows so smoothly, you hardly notice you've passed through an exterior doorway. You have entered what is known as an "outdoor room"—a space that gently blurs the distinction between indoors and outdoors by including all the elements that make your interior rooms inviting, minus the walls.

And what a delightful space that is! Sheltered from the sun, and outfitted with comfortable lounge seating, as well as tables and chairs, it entices you to sit back with a cold drink, put your feet up and enjoy lovely views of the lake beyond. Nearby is a full kitchen—with sink, refrigerator and built-in grill—perfect for entertaining guests alfresco. If you want a sunnier spot to relax, or a dip in the outdoor pool, the loggia provides wide-open access to the pool terrace a few feet away. As evening approaches, cozy up with popcorn and your favorite show on the flat-panel plasma television screen, while the flickering flames in the fireplace below add a welcoming glow to the room. With a touch of a button, concealed insect-control screens lower instantly, if needed.

Stacked directly above the ground floor loggia is a second similar outdoor space. This fresh-air room services an adjacent game room, providing an ample bar and full kitchen, plus plenty of casual seating and



Panoramic views, along with a favorite drink, can be savored from the upper loggia.

spectacular views of the lake and the pool below. Duplicate outdoor rooms like these allow various members of the family to entertain simultaneously—the kids hang with friends around the pool downstairs while Dad has a few buddies over to watch the game upstairs—without getting in each other's way.

It almost goes without saying that we all crave more elbowroom, and an outdoor room is one splendid way to get it.

The ground floor loggia has convenient access to a full bath located just behind the outdoor kitchen.



Photos: By James F. Wilson/The New American Home 2006

White wood fireplace surround—given a "stone" look, additional marble effects and metallic trim



Photos: Courtesy of Wall Mysteries, Inc. (www.wallmysteries.com)

Fill'er

Kohler's PRO CookSink makes water-based cooking procedures, such as boiling pasta, quick and easy.

The cooking vessel and controls are integrated into the sink, so water fills, boils and empties using the same appliance.

Photo: Courtesy of Grohe (www.groheamerica.com)



Grohe's stainless steel cold-water pot filler faucet installs on the wall directly over the stove, allowing busy cooks to fill large pots or add water to simmering recipes without leaving their work.

It extends 20" and then folds back neatly against the wall when not in use.

Up!

The new Whirlpool Gold side-by-side refrigerator includes a fast-fill water dispenser with a measured fill feature.

A touch of a button fills a pot with just the right amount of water without having to search for measuring cups.

A pull-out shelf on the dispenser makes it a hands-free operation.

Photo: Courtesy of Whirlpool Corporation (www.whirlpool.com)



Setting a pot of water on the stove to boil is a job that requires only a bit of thought and a little exertion.

However, it is one of those tasks involved in meal preparation that gets tedious after too much repetition.

Thank goodness someone is always coming up with a better idea. Here are a few suggestions on how you can fill'er up the easy way.

Photo: Courtesy of Kohler Co. (www.KOHLER.com)



WHAT'S THAT FAUX?

Faux finishes have come a long way, baby. They are no longer to be equated with sponge painting. Today's faux finishes are elaborate and divergent in style, providing a very personalized look for your home's interior. Faux bricks and stones, embellished with twining ivy or broken plaster, will lend the charm of an Old World Italian villa to an entryway. Faux weathered boards or faux pressed-tin on a family room ceiling create a comfortable 19th century Americana atmosphere. Faux painting imitates the appearance, coloration and veined surfaces of marble, giving a classical bearing to columns and trim. Special metal paints come with activators to achieve

unusual effects: iron paint that rusts gives an aged appearance to newly purchased decorative brackets for a log home, and copper paint that develops a realistic patina provides an antique look to a ceiling medallion. Stencils have become more complex, producing many-faceted designs that are layered and glazed for a dramatic effect.

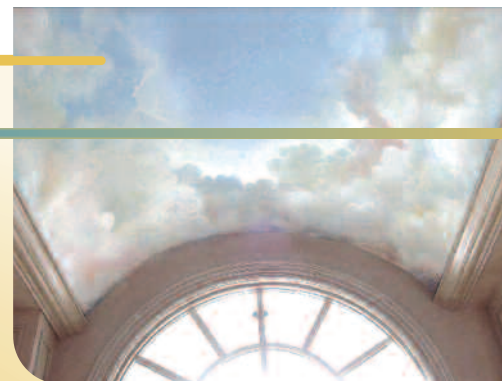
Relief vase—Heavy plaster with a mold of a vase covered in the same material



Some of the painted effects are actually 3-dimensional, such as a ceramic wall vase that has been faux finished and then attached to the wall to resemble an ancient stucco relief. Purple aquarium marbles give brilliance and dimension to a faux wall painting of grapevines. Plaster can be pressed through stencils and then painted to create an elegant raised surface design.

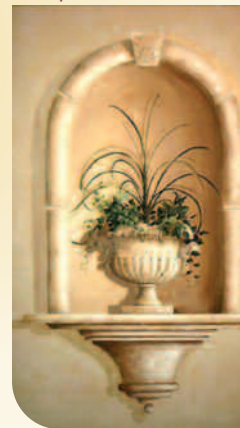
Trompe l'oeil painting seems to be 3-dimensional, but in actuality it just "tricks the eye" into thinking the scene depicted is real. Trompe l'oeil makes you believe that at the end of the room there is an open doorway leading year 'round to a beautiful spring garden. A barreled ceiling appears to open into the ethereal clouds above where it is always sunny.

Trudi McCullough of Wall Mysteries, Inc. feels that almost anything is possible with faux painting. "It all boils down to my client's imagination," she says. "How much can you imagine?" She offers this tip for when your project is still in the planning stages: remember that lighting is very important. Trudi places a 4'x 4' sample board of the design in the room for a couple days to see how the colors change from daylight to the artificial light of evening. "If you aren't happy with the look," she says with a smile, "you can always change the finish before you begin or change the light bulbs later."



Barreled ceiling—painted with Trump l'oeil clouds

Trump l'oeil niche



THE REALITY SHOW

If you were asked to describe one of the most sought-after design features found in new homes on the market, you might think of a foyer with a dramatic high ceiling that opens into an airy cathedral space for the kitchen/great room. This kind of design is very much in demand as well for kitchen/great room additions in remodeling projects. The result is truly impressive! But do people consider whether such an area fits their particular lifestyle?

As *BUILDER* and *HOME* magazines began planning their 2006 show house, they decided to call this and many other currently popular home design features into question by researching the way real families actually use their living space. After a series of in-home interviews with families across the country, they discovered that many important needs of today's families are not being met through the prevailing fashions. These findings were the basis for the Reality House, an uncommon home that bucks the trends with a design that provides flexible as well as attractive solutions.

The three main areas that surfaced where families faced the greatest challenges were:

- 1) Multigenerational households
- 2) In-home businesses and telecommuting
- 3) Storage for bulk, seasonal, and household items



Windows lining the foyer fill the space with light, producing a spacious feeling without need for a cathedral ceiling.

Photos: Courtesy BUILDER magazine (www.hanleywood.com) and HOME magazine (www.homemag.com)



An efficient home office near the family room features double workstations for a multi-generational family.

bedroom suite with private bath and mini-kitchen located on the first floor, but away from the core of the house.

Several of the families have home businesses set up at a small built-in desk in the corner of the kitchen, with paperwork strewn out over the countertops. Their desire was for a dedicated office area to get the clutter out of the kitchen. The plan of the Reality House provides even more than that! There are two separate offices—one set aside for the home business, having a separate client entrance, and the other intended for family use, and therefore located near the family room.

One oft-heard remark during the interviews was that the families don't have enough storage space. Most houses can't handle the amount of stuff people store these days. In fact, many people would have willingly traded showy square footage in their homes for more functional storage space. The designers of the Reality House took this comment very seriously, creating storage areas in every place imaginable. A walk-in pantry in the kitchen provides plenty of space for storing bulk food items. Built-in shelving by the various entrances provides a resting place for purses, keys and shoes. The kids each have their own cozy study alcove in their bedrooms, complete with built-in desk. Even the garage is outfitted with attractive shelves, cabinets and a refrigerator, so there is room left over for the car!

The lasting beauty of the Reality House is that it can be a tool for getting people thinking "outside the box"—analyzing their own individual needs as they prepare to build or remodel, rather than simply going with the trends. ■



The second-generation suite provides a wonderful escape for grandparents who need a little peace and quiet now and then.

The multigenerational families interviewed have more members than a typical nuclear family group and therefore create more noise in the home. The sound from all their activity tends to travel throughout the home, creating even more noise as it reverberates off 2-story high ceilings. One of the ways the Reality House deals with that problem is by eliminating cathedral ceilings. The desirable light, airy feeling in the front entry and family room is achieved another way—by lining the exterior walls with plenty of windows.

Grandparents who live in these multigenerational families appreciate the open design of the great room, which allows them to be "where the action is." However, as evening approaches they often wish they could retreat to a quieter, secluded area before retiring. The Reality House provides the perfect get-away spot—a second-generation