

Remodeling Tips

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Vacationing in a Home Resort

Since 1984, the annual International Builders' Show has featured an official showcase house called The New American Home®. A major goal of the program is to spotlight emerging trends in the housing industry.

This year's showcase house is no exception. Designed by architect Melanie Taylor, who publishes an annual residential *Trend Alert*, The New American Home® 2002 reflects Ms. Taylor's keen instincts for what people want in their homes today.

"Cocooning" is a popular word for describing an overwhelming desire of today's homeowners. They want to make their homes a haven, protected and secure from the outside world.



Photography: James T. Wilson, Dallas, TX/Compliments of NAHB

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This indoor/outdoor veranda invites one to spend a leisurely evening, touched by gentle breezes.

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Help! I Need More Room...

It's that time of year again...summer! Hopefully, your landscaping is growing well and the lawns look good. Many of you are planning vacations, and most moms are trying to figure out "What the heck am I going to do with the kids?"

Well, I can't help you there, but I can help you with those thoughts you're having of "How can I get more room in my house?" Two simple words: "ADD ON." This has been the year for additions. Never have we had so many requests for additions. We have done everything from studies, dens, family rooms, bedrooms, 2nd stories, and even a laundry room that would give some kitchens a run for their money. Why so many additions? Actually there are many simple answers. First off is the strong economy. Second is the high cost of new home construction. Many of our clients have contemplated mov-

ing, until they have seen the cost of new homes. It makes adding-on a very cost effective alternative. Third is existing home values. The used home market has also seen a substantial increase in value, and most neighborhoods can justify the added cost of an addition. And the fourth...today's families just need more room.

So if you want more room for any of these four reasons or any others, please don't hesitate to call **D & D Scarborough** today. And if you don't need more room or any other remodeling/construction work done this summer, we hope you and your family have a very happy and safe season. And remember to use lots of sunscreen.

Thanks,

The staff at D & D



Vacationing in a Home Resort

(continued from page 1)

They want to entertain, but the emphasis has shifted to personal and family relaxation and enjoyment. Americans are well traveled and they've experienced luxury resorts. Now they want to include those delights in their own home oases.

These desires are captured in one of the most exciting spaces of The New American Home®: the recreation area. It is designed to let the homeowner vacation at home, and it includes all the amenities.

The recreation area is divided into several zones. Knowing that Americans are becoming more health conscious, one of the spaces is designated as an exercise/massage zone. This area includes weight lifting and cardiovascular machines, along with three suspended 27-inch flat screen TVs. While working out, the homeowner can keep pace with news, sports and weather events simultaneously.

Modern life can be very stressful, and massage therapy is a wonderful way to relieve tightened muscles and sore limbs. A home massage table allows massage therapists to come in for appointments at the convenience of the homeowner. To further enhance health and relaxation, a built-in sauna is located next to the massage table.

Natural colors and materials, such as woven wooden shades, brown ceramic tile on the floor, and acorn yellow walls lend a feeling of simplicity and serenity to the area.

The exercise/massage zone is connected to a billiards/game room. In this spacious room, a 60-inch wall-mounted plasma screen provides the opportunity of enjoying favorite movies. A dry bar and wine cooler closet are located at one end. The unique bar is covered in hammered copper tiles and features an amber-colored concrete countertop. Overhead, the pendant lights are encased in old wine bottles, highlighting the wine bar theme.

The room is bright and airy, filled with natural light flowing through an abundance of windows and doors. With the windows open, the soothing sound of flowing water greets the ears. A



The large triangular window behind the bar permits views inside the wine and beverage cooler. The wine theme is continued in the light fixtures and in the countertop made from concrete mixed with pieces of broken wine bottles.

short distance across the outside decking awaits the swimming pool. A refreshing waterfall, continuously spilling into the swimming pool, invites the listener to take a plunge in the pool, or a soak in the adjoining spa.

The adjacent verandah, with comfortable furnishings, and an indoor wet bar and mini-fridge close by, encourages one to linger over a good book or a delicious cup of tea.

Ah-h-h! Truly, the resort-like aspects of this recreation area orchestrate experiences that evoke joy, appreciation and serenity at home, every day.



A relaxing massage completes the experience after working out in this room which reflects the atmosphere of a resort spa.



This airy room is a wonderful space to gather friends and family for multiple entertainment activities.

Photography on this page: James T. Wilson, Dallas, TX/Compliments of NAHB



Color Is Back!

For several years products on display at the annual Kitchen and Bath Industry Show have been shown in soothing naturals and soft, translucent pastels. Therefore, it was indeed stunning at KBIS this year to come across many instances where a spectrum of vibrant colors and striking patterns were featured. As a matter of fact, it was a welcome change of pace—fanciful and fun. These products can be unique accent pieces to lend an element of whimsy or intrigue to a sophisticated kitchen or bathroom.



Saffron Ltd.'s Artistic Designer Elli Sorensen presented a new hand-painted ceramic basin and accessory line this spring at KBIS. Her exclusive designs range from vegetables to pine cones to trout. She uses traditional glaze techniques applied by hand so that her products will last a lifetime with the proper care. These products are not only high quality and functional, but they also offer a delightful originality.

Zephyr showcased the *Torino*, a very original style of high-power kitchen ventilation from Italy. Inspired by the martini glass, the *Torino* seamlessly fuses a cylindrical, stainless steel body stem with an oval, hand-blown colored glass canopy. The canopy is available in brilliant shades of red, green, yellow or blue, and is designed to grace kitchens with truly unique, contemporary style.



Bemis introduced the *Gallery Collection™*: nine exciting designs hand-painted on their toilet seats. These dynamic works of art by Leslie Trewyn and Kathleen Savage are inspired by current design trends. They offer creative new options to express your style and make an individual statement in a traditionally functional environment. The *Gallery Collection* features a high-gloss, multi-layer polyurethane finish that's easy to maintain.

GET A GRIP showed their high quality, handmade cabinetry hardware of fused glass, anodized aluminum, polished or brushed brass, and chrome. There are 26 distinctive cabinet hardware styles in the current line, each one being a little masterpiece in itself. These can be ordered in different combinations of colors and finishes to suit your taste. With this stylish hardware you can personalize your cabinets, making them one-of-a-kind.



Countertops: Decorative Stone Backsplashes

A decorative stone backsplash can add a special touch of elegance to any countertop surface. Part of the beauty of stone is that as it wears and ages, it acquires a lovely patina.

The stone which is used for backsplashes is usually marble or limestone in a splendid array of colors. It is carefully cut into various shapes and sizes according to the end use.

Stone mosaics, for example, are made up of smaller stones which are arranged in a pleasing design and spaced just far enough apart on a mesh backing for easy on-site installation. The mosaic designs can be as simple as stones of a single color set in straight rows. Or the designs can be elaborate patterns made up of many small stones in a myriad of colors.

With stone inlay, the limestone or marble is cut into intricate shapes that are precisely fit together by hand and filled to form delicate, colorful designs, such as



Photo: Courtesy of Walker Zanger (www.walkerzanger.com)

The rustic appeal of tumbled marble is warm and inviting.

fleur de lis. These are available in border lengths or as corner pieces.

There are many other larger stone sizes

and shapes that are referred to as field tile. These can be used with or without the mosaics and inlays. They can also be placed together with smaller squares, triangles, or rectangles, bar liners, dots, rail moldings and cornice moldings, as well as three dimensional decorative moldings, to create the perfect look you desire.

The stones can have a variety of finishes. One popular choice today is a distressed or a tumbled finish. In this case, the surface of the stone has been worn to give it a rustic appearance. The edges will be uneven or chipped, and there will be some variation in size and thickness. The effect is as though the stone came straight out of an old European farmhouse.

Natural stone products should be sealed with a high quality penetrating sealer. They will require resealing every four to five years as a normal maintenance procedure. General cleaning can be done with a mild dishwashing detergent.



2002-2003 Kitchen Trends

Cabinets

- Cabinets have cleaner, more contemporary lines.
- The look is warm, soft and simple.
- There are fewer wall cabinets and lots of windows to let in natural light.
- Architectural details are more important.
- Heights and depths of wall cabinets are staggered to add interest.
- Glass is a very hot design element.
- Drawers are gaining popularity over doors.
- Cabinet interiors are fitted with upgraded storage systems.
- Knee space under floor cabinets is a growing trend.
- The furniture look is in, with furniture-style legs on cabinets.

Appliances

- Appliances continue to emphasize heavy-duty professional-quality units with a stainless steel finish.
- Copper and bronze finishes are emerging.
- Cook tops and ranges offer super high-speed cooking.
- Certain ovens offer micro, convection and regular baking all in one appliance.
- Adequate ventilation is a very important consideration with the larger cook tops.
- Refrigerator standard sizes are 42" to 48". New models are increasingly slimmer, wider and taller.
- Separate ice machines are being installed, replacing ice makers built into refrigerator doors.
- Environmental concerns are bringing appliance noise levels down—and popularizing appliances such as compactors.
- State-of-the-art technology includes control maintenance of appliances, inventory/shopping services, and internet connections.

Islands

- Islands are something everyone wants in their kitchen, whether there is space or not. Peninsulas are not as significant.
- The mixing of woods in the kitchen, such as glazed maple wall cabinets with walnut on the island, has become well-established.
- Diversity in cabinet dimensions make a 36" bar stool height possible at a one-level island.



Photo: Courtesy of Merillat (www.merillat.com)

Backsplashes

- Backsplashes are usually in tile (ceramic, porcelain or stone) and are highly decorative.
- Glass tile and metallic finishes on tile are coming on strong.

Sinks

- Sinks have become specialized and are placed in multiple work centers. Undermounted sinks as well as surface mounted vessel sinks are in vogue. Big, deep, wide farm-style sinks are all the rage.
- Sinks are pieces of art in quality materials, such as copper, stone, ceramic and glass.

Faucets

- Faucets are making a big fashion statement in the new brushed, aged, oiled and oxidized bronze and nickel finishes. Gunmetal finishes are big.

Lighting

- Lighting is moving away from dependence

on recessed cans. Instead, a variety of fixtures, some specifically placed at task areas, are being used.

- Natural light is being maximized through more windows and solar tubing.
- Under cabinet lighting is vital.
- Toe-kick lighting is increasing.

Color

- Color for kitchens continues to be comfortable and natural: bronze, gold, brown, copper, and water colors such as green and blue are big.
- Teal is going to make a comeback in 2003.
- Wallpaper has gone by the wayside as painted textures and wall stains have become the fashionable choice.

The kitchen in the photo demonstrates a number of these trends with the warm looks, staggered cabinets, use of glass, and the kitchen island.

Countertops

- Countertops are primarily solid surface, stone, quartz surface, stainless steel, butcher block or an interesting mix of these materials.
- Concrete is increasing in popularity as manufacturers are perfecting the product. Glass countertops are on the horizon in a couple of years.
- Multiple levels of countertops are designed to enhance various tasks.

Floors

- Floors continue to have tile (ceramic, porcelain or stone) as standard.
- Wood is a second choice, especially exotic wood with wider planks.
- Cork is making a comeback, however; and bamboo is following on its heels as environmentally renewable materials which are also soft on the feet and absorb sound.