

Sensible Ideas for Great Remodeling Projects

Design: Successful Additions & Renovations

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Additions and renovations can wonderfully transform the way an entire part of a home works, feels and looks or they can just sit there looking conspicuous and clunky. A great remodeling project blends with the existing home but subtly enhances the whole. Of course there are instances where rules and guidelines can be strayed from, but for the most part these are sensible ideas to keep in mind.

Unless working on every part of a home, typically you want to be in keeping with many parts of an existing home. Things to think about being consistent with include quality of materials i.e. whether the existing home has oak wood floors -- it's tough to add faux wood laminate floors next to the real thing. Other examples of elements to keep consistent throughout the house are interior and exterior details like roof eave and trim and if most rooms have existing crown molding. Perhaps most importantly is a sense of blending scale and proportion. If your home is a modest cape for instance you don't want to add overwhelming geometry from the street that obscures the original intent. Or on the interior have a huge cavernous cathedral space that doesn't flow with other spaces. That doesn't mean you can't have a larger more spacious room, it just means it needs to be sensitively approached.

One thing to change that really does transform a home is "flow". That might sound like a fancy word, but many older homes, even newer homes built by developers just don't function very well. There can be paths of circulation through kitchens that are dysfunctional and make it difficult to cook in or rooms with too many doors that it makes arranging furniture very difficult. A well designed home is ergonomically correct, maximizing how the space works and flows will result in the home feeling larger and more comfortable.

Masterful lighting and design can create magic in your space -- whether it is from lighting design or from getting the most from available natural light. The use of light and lights is an important element that can enhance the perception of a home. More light and a sense of space outside will also make a home feel larger.

Combining these two elements with any rearranged or new space takes some skill. Many times the actual way a family is going to use and grow with a space isn't considered. What happens when three young kids grow into teenagers for example? Done well, a remodeled home enhances more than just the parts that are touched. Good architecture really does achieve this; adjacent spaces can benefit from what has been remodeled. Successful additions and renovations take know how and professional experience to be sensitively accomplished, for the right questions to be asked and answered.



BEFORE



SAME VIEW AFTER

How We Can Help!

We love helping people create meaningful spaces that are a reflection of each individual lifestyle. We are going to say it again... a remodeled home done well enhances more than just the parts that are touched. That's great remodeling. Call or contact us to start exploring what is possible with your home!

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