

Remodeling Tips

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EXPECT MORE, AND GET IT



From Andersen Windows' Home Style Library

Style MATTERS

One of the many benefits of remodeling is that it can revive our older homes, bringing back to life the beauty and dignity of past eras in our nation's history, and preserving our heritage for future generations. Whether the style of your home is a grand Tudor or an unpretentious Ranch, it has a compelling story to tell and is worth your best efforts to do it well.

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CONGRATS TO RDI FOR WINNING FOUR LOCAL MIAMI VALLEY NARI COTY AWARDS



We are excited to announce that four beautiful projects completed by **Remodeling Designs, Inc.** this year have received 2013 Local Contractor of the Year (CoTY) Awards from the Miami Valley NARI, the Dayton area chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry.

Our awards (photos on page 4) were received in the following categories:

1. Residential Bath \$15,001 to \$30,000
2. Residential Bath \$30,001-\$60,000
3. Residential Kitchen \$100,001 and Over
4. Universal Design

In his letter of congratulations, Miami Valley NARI Association Executive, Tony Feltner, wrote, "As one of the most prestigious awards a remodeling contractor can receive, the 2013 Miami Valley NARI CoTY Awards reflect a high quality of design and superior craftsmanship. ...you can display your awards with tremendous company pride."

Certainly, we do take pride in the work the **Remodeling Designs** team accomplishes each year. And we sincerely thank our clients for giving us the opportunity of working on their amazing projects.

The formal presentation of the awards will be conducted at the first annual Miami Valley NARI Awards Ceremony to be held on January 22, 2013 in Dayton.

Style MATTERS

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Have you ever driven by a home that was remodeled without giving any consideration to the architectural style of the existing exterior? Perhaps the homeowners are very proud of their new addition in a contemporary style that features large walls of glass. Unfortunately, the addition looks disconnected from the rest of the house, which is of a completely different style. Because of this, the remodeling project actually devalued their home, rather than increasing its value as the homeowners had hoped and expected.



Artwork: Courtesy of Andersen (www.andersenwindows.com)



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Familiarizing yourself with the architectural style of your home is key. Keep in mind that your home does not need to exhibit every aspect of a style in order to be considered part of a general style category. The architect or builder who designed your home may have used his own signature style that distinguishes his Ranch houses

from all the others in town. The important thing is that when you renovate your home, you make every attempt—especially on the exterior—to be authentic to the original style, even while enhancing your home's amenities. This is true, even if all you are doing is replacing your windows with new high-performance windows for the purpose of saving money on your energy bill.

It can be quite fascinating to research and discover the factors that influenced how your home was originally designed and built. For example, the Queen Anne style home, (example on the cover), was impacted by the industrial revolution in the early 19th century during the Victorian period. The advent of mass production made it possible for homeowners to add detailed ornamentation relatively inexpensively to their homes. All kinds of brackets, finials, curlicue cutouts and patterned shingles were popular. The Queen Anne style also included a one-story porch across one or two sides of the house, bay windows, gables, overhangs, and fanciful towers in an asymmetrical facade. The double-hung windows often incorporated art glass and grill patterns that created geometric shapes.

On the other hand, the mid-twentieth-century Craftsman style bungalow

(example on this page) came about as a reaction against mass-produced ornamentation. It is derived from the Arts and Crafts movement that believed a return to a simpler, less flamboyant style would lead to a healthier lifestyle. The style emphasized natural materials, handcraftsmanship and functional design. A Craftsman bungalow is typically 1½ stories and features large covered front porches with battered columns, a low-pitched gabled roof, wide unenclosed overhanging eaves, exposed roof rafters, and dormers. The double-hung windows feature multiple lights in the upper windows and a single pane in the lower.



Photo: Courtesy of Häfele (www.hafele.com/us)



A WINNING COMBINATION

In AIA's recent Home Design Trends Survey, adding a recycling center to the kitchen rated high on the list of homeowner must-haves. That makes a lot of sense, because the kitchen is the space in the home where the typical American family generates the most trash. When you prepare a salad, the fruit and vegetable trimmings remain. When you cook, empty plastic bottles, glass jars, metal cans and cardboard containers are left over. If you are like most homeowners today, you are looking for a way to conveniently and responsibly dispose of these items.

The first step in making your cooking process eco-friendly is to consider ways you can change your purchasing habits in order to lessen the amount of actual trash your cooking generates. Pre-packaged convenience foods make dinner preparation a breeze on those evenings when you are otherwise busy. However, for sustainable living the best practice is to purchase fresh food items or grow your own whenever possible. Edible landscaping is increasing in popularity as homeowners discover they can grow delicious food that simultaneously serves decorative purposes. Building an interior window garden into your kitchen lets you harvest tasty herbs year around.

The next step is to add composting to the process. It is better to allow leftover organic material, such as banana peels and egg shells, to decay and return to the soil, rather than grinding it down the disposal or throwing it in the trash. For convenience, install a stainless steel compost container with a tight-fitting lid in your kitchen countertop next to the sink. This way you will save time by collecting your food scraps until you are ready to take them outside for composting. A different option is to conceal an automatic

compost bin inside a base cabinet. The NatureMill composter is designed to turn your food scraps into compost in just two weeks.

Another important step is to research which plastic, glass, cardboard and metal containers may be recycled in your area. You might be surprised to find out how little of your kitchen waste actually needs to go into your trash bin. Choose an easily accessible location in your kitchen base cabinet and install a recycling unit with several removable recycling bins. Selecting a unit with bins of varied colors increases the likelihood that you will separate everything properly. A recycling unit provides an easy way to separate and store recyclable materials until they are ready for curbside pickup or a trip to your local recycling center. If this procedure is simple enough, you and your family members will be more apt to do it on a regular basis.

Fewer trips to take out the trash and less trash in the landfill: composting and recycling are a winning combination!



New Product Introductions

SLIDE RULES

Frontino is an innovative hardware solution for sliding cabinet doors. The new hardware by Häfele permits sliding doors to operate smoothly and quietly on a single track. This allows the doors to sit flush when closed, and also offers space savings inside the cabinet.

Sliding doors maximize space in the kitchen—unlike hinged doors that open outward and

take up valuable space. Cabinet doors can stay open while meals are being prepared, increasing the functionality of the kitchen.

Frontino is a great fit for Universal Design applications, since it allows easier access to the cabinet interior for those who have physical constraints.



2013 LOCAL NARI CoTY AWARD WINNERS



Beavercreek Project – Residential Bath
\$15,001 - \$30,000
 Project Manager – Gary Reed
 Sales Team – Erich Eggers, Christine Balsan
 Client Materials/Packaging – Karen Dillhoff
 Designer – Beth Spegal

Beavercreek Project - Residential Bath
Project - \$30,001 - \$60,000
 Project Manager – Brian Good
 Sales Team – Erich Eggers, Christine Balsan
 Client Materials/Packaging – Karen Dillhoff
 Designer – Beth Spegal



Xenia Project – Residential Kitchen
\$100,001 and Over
 Project Manager – Brian Good
 Sales Team – Erich Eggers, Christine Balsan
 Client Materials/Packaging – Karen Dillhoff
 Designer – Beth Spegal



West Chester Project – Universal Design
 Project Manager – Brian Good
 Sales Team – Erich Eggers, Christine Balsan
 Client Materials/Packaging – Karen Dillhoff
 Designer – Beth Spegal

