

Normandy Builders
440 E. Ogden Avenue
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SPRING

Remodeling Tips

2009

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NORMANDY CONSTRUCTION

Photo: Timberlake Cabinetry (www.Timberlake.com)



Home Sweet Hideaway

Americans are rediscovering the homestead. After years of believing the only place to eat was in a restaurant and the only place for entertainment was at a movie theater, we're choosing to stay home more and we're loving it! Now we're looking for ways to make our homes the place where we feel most vibrantly alive and peacefully contented.

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What's Happening?

The winds of change are blowing. We are changing the way people live every day. Current trends show that homeowners are keeping their homes and updating their living spaces. We have seen an increase in the number of kitchen remodels, bath remodels, and other home remodeling projects compared to years past. While many clients are still adding space with an addition, our mix of work has shifted to include a higher percentage of remodeling projects than in years past.

Normandy is constantly working with our staff and our vendor-partners to be sure that we are well versed in the latest design trends and product offerings. Right now we have partnered with Pella to offer our clients a bit of an incentive to replace their windows and doors. See the back page for details. And as always, thanks for your trust and your business. ■



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Home Sweet Hideaway

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One place to look is The New American Home 2009, built for the International Builders Show in Las Vegas this year. This multi-million-dollar home showcases an abundance of new concepts that can be adapted to home design and remodeling at all price levels.

We can pick up some incredible ideas just by focusing on one section of the large house: the master suite. This suite is a beautiful, restful oasis located on the main level, but at the opposite side of the house from the public area.

To help keep the bedroom cool in the hot, desert climate, it was given a northern exposure. Taking advantage of the climate and geography when planning rooms in a home can greatly add to energy efficiency. The master suite also benefits from the insulated concrete forms used for the main structural element of the entire home, providing superior thermal performance throughout.

The bedroom is seamlessly integrated with the exterior Zen garden through an 8-foot-wide passage created by motorized telescoping all-glass patio doors. The restful spirit of an outdoor garden can permeate an entire home through expansive openings like this.

In the master closet, sleek Espresso stained wood cabinets with horizontally placed Zebra wood faces reinforce the feeling of serenity. This carefully planned walk-in closet provides organized storage for all the things that typically clutter up a bedroom. Organized storage is one of the most sought-after amenities in today's home.

A well-appointed morning kitchen adjacent to the bedroom provides all the necessary appliances, storage and workspace to conveniently start the day. A mini-kitchen can be tucked into the corner of almost any room to provide a welcome drink or snack.

The master bath is welcoming to all abilities and age groups. The no-threshold shower with integral bench, the floating vanities, and the wide-decked tub demonstrate the application of universal design principles.



Photo: by James F. Wilson



Photo: by James F. Wilson



Photo: Timberlake Cabinetry (www.Timberlake.com)

Eco-friendly solutions are evident throughout the master suite. Just a few examples: Tankless water heaters provide instant hot water without wasting the energy necessary to keep water hot in a separate tank. Solar electric power is generated from solar panels installed on the roof. LED fixtures were chosen for the recessed lights in the ceiling. The soft carpet underfoot is made from SmartStrand, a new fiber that is made in part from renewable crops.

This house is an amazing garden of ideas. Take good notes and have fun tossing around some of these exciting new concepts. Picture how they could be transplanted into your own house to help make it the place you're glad to come home to.

Smart Carpet



Even the carpet is green in the eco-savvy New American Home 2009. The SmartStrand carpet by Mohawk is made from Dupont Sorona fibers. Since these fibers are created in part from renewable crops like field corn, the carpet helps conserve our limited petroleum resources. But that's not its only selling point. It also has permanent stain-resistance engineered into the fibers, so there is no need to re-treat the carpet with stain protectors after steam cleaning. In wear tests it has also proven to be exceptionally durable. ■

Photo: Courtesy of Mohawk Industries (www.mohawkindustries.com)



Good Vibes

Kohler takes relaxation to a new level in The New American Home with their VibrAcoustic bathtub. Transducers are located on the backside of the bath below the water for a music vibration experience and two above the water for audio. Four preset VibroAcoustic experiences synchronize music, vibration and light with water. A DTV Bath interface controls all features and affords bathers the option of listening to a favorite play list from an MP3 player or a radio station from a home computer. A DTV Bath interface controls all features and affords bathers the option of listening to a favorite play list from an MP3 player or a radio station from a home computer. ■



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

A Fusion of Color Trends

By Barbara Schirmeister,
ASID, CAUS, DC



Portions of the Interiors 2009-2010 color forecast, which exhibit the various directions. (Courtesy of The Color Association of the United States CAUS), www.colorassociation.com.

“Color dichotomy” describes the color forecast for 2009-2010 for residential and commercial interiors from the Color Association of the United States (CAUS), a forecast of color trends used by manufacturers of environmental and interior products. The palette exhibits both contrast and contradiction, reflecting uncertain and chaotic circumstances as we approach a new decade of the 21st century.

Urban Neutrals

Urban neutrals are the core:

- No-colors – a bit off kilter and moody, such as sepias, taupes, tobaccos, bronzes and off-browns;
- Whites – speak of purity, luxury, the ethereal and a new start; it acts as a stage set for beautiful color combos.
- Gray – Definitely the new leading family. We see “techie” grays alongside of elegant taupes, metallic silvers and graphites.

Graphic Brights

These vibrant, energetic colors are represented with new neons, acid and fluorescent brights, electric primaries, and the bold contrast of black and white. The graphic brights punch up the urban neutrals and the black and white story.

Eco-colors

Driving influences on color and design are sustainability and ecological concerns. These colors are familiar and comforting

and include pre-washed hues, organic dyes and tender colorations inspired by nature.

- Cheerful, sunlit golds and yellows;
- New botanical greens as fresh grasses and new leaves, celadons, clean tropicals and jades;
- Reds are important – from terracottas and pinks to crimson;
- Orange becomes coral, copper and cantaloupe;
- We will have blue in all its glory: sky blue, periwinkle, cobalt, cornflower, royal, nautical, lavender blue and a plethora of spa-influenced blues. Purpled blues and blueed-greens shift into a new range of teals and aquas. The blue palette will play off of the urban neutrals and metallic segments of the palette.

Luster and Shimmer

Sparkle and shine has resurfaced with a vengeance as glitz, dazzle and shimmer. Luster adds life to deep shades. This contemporary fantasy embraces glamour in all forms and applauds over-the-top drama in design. Metallics are a major influence in reflective color. Tarnished, burnished, polished or brushed, they add to the neutral palette. Choose from an array of silvers, coppers, bronzes or precious metals.

Finally, there will be an emphasis on imagination, fostering a mix of unusual color combinations. ■



Echo Recycled Glass by Crossville, designed by Barbara Schirmeister, addresses two important trends: luster and shimmer, which are adorning products everywhere; and the world's concern with sustainability and the environment.



Crossville's Modern Mythology Natural Stone Collection represents some of the new neutrals and the graphic blacks and whites in the 2009-2010 forecast. Barbara Schirmeister designed the collection.



Internationally renowned color expert Barbara Schirmeister, ASID, has been a longtime member of the CAUS Interiors Committee, helping to formulate the annual Environmental/Interiors Forecast palette. She has served for many years as color consultant to a number of major companies.

7 reasons to consider window and door replacement by Normandy Builders.



Pella® Designer Series® casement windows with 9-Lite Prairie removable between-the-glass grilles. Pella Craftsman wood entry door in Mahogany.



Pella Designer Series casement windows with White snap-in between-the-glass blinds and Traditional grilles.

Windows are not only your home's source of natural light and ventilation. Quality windows can make a huge difference in other important parts of your life — everything from impressing guests ... to how you spend your free time ... to even the size of your energy bills. In fact, here are seven great reasons new windows from Normandy Builders will make every day a little brighter.

- 1. Home appearance and curb appeal** — Think about it. Windows and doors are the only building materials that impact the beauty of your home's interior and its exterior. On the outside, windows are available in virtually endless color choices so they can blend with your home's exterior or become stunning focal points. Inside your home, features like between-the-glass window blinds and shades enhance your décor and can be easily changed when you redecorate.
- 2. Easier maintenance** — Put away your paintbrush — today's wood windows are available with low-maintenance exteriors that don't need scraping and painting so they look great for years. And lose the ladder, too. Easy-clean features allow you to clean the outside window glass from inside your house.

- 3. More convenience** — Modern windows' energy-efficient glass keeps your home comfortable without the hassle of unsightly storm windows. And window screens are available that simply roll away and out of sight when you're not using them — so there's no need to take them down and store them for the winter.

- 4. Increased privacy** — Between-the-glass blinds and fabric shades make it easy to control privacy — and there are no cords to hassle with. A simple lever raises, lowers and tilts your window fashions. Obscure glass and tinted window glass are other great choices for assuring privacy in bathrooms and bedrooms.

- 5. Sun and sound control** — Windows with between-the-glass window fashions and triple-pane

glass not only make it easy to control light; they also reduce outside noise so you can enjoy a more peaceful indoor environment.

- 6. Ventilation control** — Innovative high-transparency window screens allow more light and air into your home. And retractable window and patio door screens disappear when you don't need them.

- 7. Energy efficiency** — Replace your drafty, old windows, and you'll send less money to the utility company each month. Windows with three panes of glass are especially energy-saving.

You've already experienced how Normandy Builders creates more beautiful, comfortable and energy-efficient homes for our customers. So if you're considering window and door replacement, think of us. We're proud to have a 30-year partnership with Pella — an industry leader in window and door innovation. For more information on window and door replacement from Normandy Builders, call 630-455-5600. ■



Pella Designer Series casement windows with snap-in between-the-glass shades and prairie grilles.

Limited-Time Offer!

\$ **50** off each Pella® Designer Series® Between-the-Glass Slimshade® Blinds or Fabric Shades for Pella Windows or Patio Doors*



Call Normandy Builders at 630-455-5600.

* Offer applies to window and door contracts of 2 or more windows or 1 or more patio doors signed between 03/15/09 and 06/30/09.