



**REMODELING A HOUSE
CREATING
A HOME**

KITCHEN INSPIRATION | MASTER BATH LUXURY | THE LIVING ROOM | DECOR DYNAMICS



A QUICK OVERVIEW

- 3** Remodeling a House, Creating a Home
- 5** Kitchen Inspiration
- 10** Master Bath Luxury
- 14** The Living Room
- 18** Next Steps

There's more to making a home than simply owning a house. Your home is an extension of who you are; it's part of your daily life, the space you come back to at the end of a long day and the place where you raise and nurture your family. It all starts with having a location that speaks to you, however, few homeowners find their perfect house ready and waiting for them.

Often, it takes remodeling an existing structure to make it your own.

Creating your dream home from a basic structure is what remodeling is all about. Buy a fixer-upper and reinvent the interior to reflect your personality, or focus on remodeling the bathroom and kitchen for a less comprehensive, yet still impactful solution. A young couple might prefer a bigger bedroom with doors that open to the garden, while a family with elderly parents may want a specialized bathtub for frail seniors. Newlyweds might need little more than a one-bedroom cottage, and parents with older offspring living at home might need extra parking space for a number of cars.

In this eBook, we provide helpful information and ideas for anyone considering a home remodeling project.



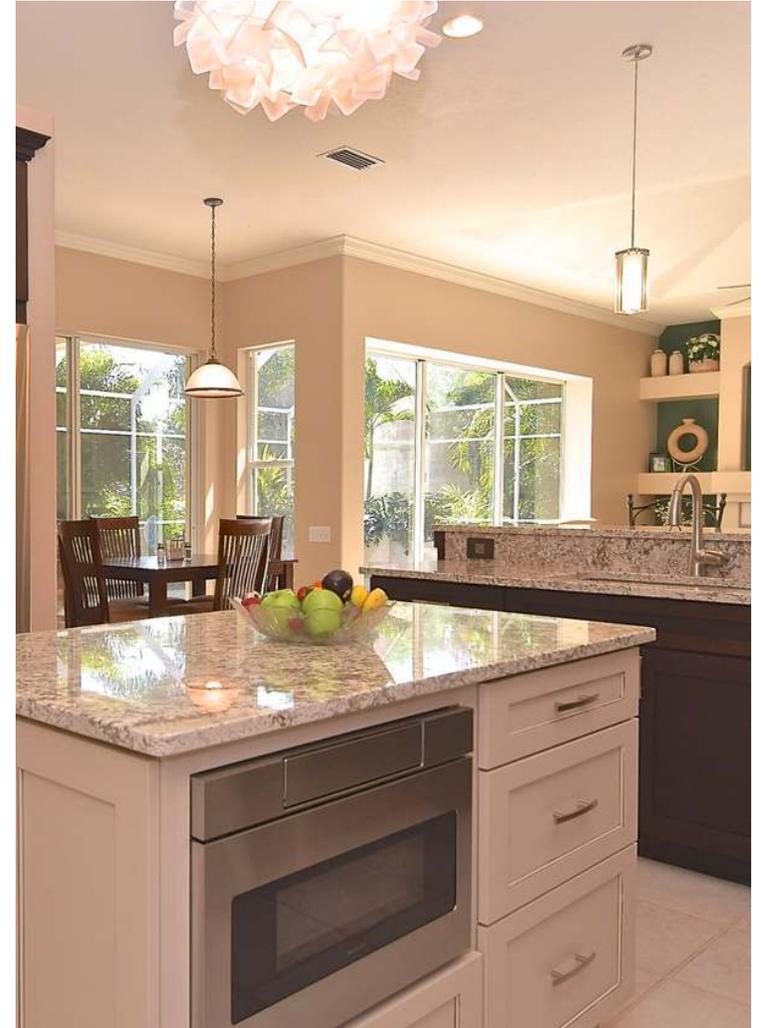


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KITCHEN INSPIRATION

Having a great kitchen is every homeowner's dream. One that inspires you to create delicious, artful dishes for your family's enjoyment. One that takes the drudgery out of kitchen chores like dishwashing, and that gives you a place to work your magic.

The right kitchen can come in any shape, size or style—it's all about making the most of what you've got. When you're remodeling, a little inspiration goes a long way toward designing the kitchen you've always wanted.





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CHOOSING A THEME

- ◆ Cottage
- ◆ Traditional
- ◆ Contemporary
- ◆ Modern
- ◆ Family-Friendly
- ◆ Old World
- ◆ Pioneer
- ◆ Eclectic
- ◆ Artistic
- ◆ Nature-Inspired



Choosing the right theme is vital for creating a kitchen that will serve you in the long term. The style you select should complement your personality and support your family's daily needs.

Use wood for warmth, glass, and metal for elegance, or colors for depth and interest. Choose your textures carefully, too. Smooth, flawless surfaces mesh well with an uncluttered, minimalist look, while grainy, natural-looking fittings do wonders for a rustic, earthy kitchen.

LAYOUT LOGISTICS

When you buy a home, you're often stuck with the existing kitchen layout because of logistical issues such as plumbing for the dishwasher and the sink. When you remodeling, it's entirely up to you where you want each component to be. Decide for yourself whether to create an open-plan environment or a cozy nook where you can escape from the crowd and indulge in a little creative cooking. Then, ask yourself a few questions :

- How Much Space Do I Need?
- Is It Essential To Have a Breakfast Bar?
- Will a Mobile Kitchen Island Offer More Flexibility?
- Does the Room Need Direct Access to the Outdoors for BBQ's on the Deck?

Whatever type of kitchen you choose, it needs to be a relaxing space where you can be inspired to create the masterpieces your family enjoys.



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MASTER BATH LUXURY

One of the most frequently used rooms in the home, your bathroom should be a relaxing retreat where you can rejuvenate your mind, body, and spirit.

Banish the kids to their own bathroom, and build or remodel your master bathroom to create a peaceful, inviting venue for yourself.

MAKING SPACE

When remodeling, you might be limited by existing walls and boundaries. Make a small bathroom appear more spacious with judicious use of mirrors.

If your bathroom is located against an external wall, bring the outdoors in by breaking through and creating a French door or large window to the garden.

Make a focal point with a full-length feature wall painting or design, such as an outdoor land- or waterscape.

AMENITIES

One sink or two? A spa or a regular bathtub? To bidet or not to bidet? Do you require lots of storage space for makeup or toiletries?

Possibilities include antique designs, rustic cabin-style shower units, bathtub jets and grab bars mounted against the walls for safety. Consider "his and hers" sinks for easy navigating in the mornings.

With the proper forethought- there is also room to beat the Florida heat by adding a ceiling fan. A ceiling fan is not only practical, but creates an unbeatable ambiance.

LIGHTING

The lighting in your master bathroom can be a deal-breaker. Choose from a range of options including:

- *soft lighting*
- *halogens for accents or task lighting*
- *ceiling-mounted fixtures*
- *vintage-style pendants*
- *recessed lighting for ambiance, or stylish chandeliers*

The type of combination of styles you select will make all the difference when it comes to your bathroom's atmosphere, and your state of mind.

COLOR STATEMENTS

There's no limit to the color statements you can use in modern bathrooms. From country botanicals to 50's glamour, your choice of pastels, lights, and brights, determines the character of your master bathroom.

Carry the accents through your accessories and functional items such as your towels, towel rails, floor coverings, and flower arrangements.



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A modern living room featuring a large white marble island with a dark wood countertop. The kitchen cabinets are dark wood with a white backsplash. The ceiling is white with exposed wooden beams and a decorative chandelier. A large window with a decorative archway is visible in the background.

THE LIVING ROOM

Whether your perfect living room is a formal area with high-backed, elegant recliners, or a trendy design with bean bags for seating, remodeling gives you the chance to create the space you want.



WHERE WE LIVE

We've been making dens for thousands of years, since the time when mankind lived in caves alongside his animals. Today's dens and living rooms are nothing like these original spaces, but they still serve the purpose of giving us a place to gather, a hearth, a space too read, make conversation, and relax.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND

When you remodel, it's a good time to make your home environmentally friendly, so don't miss the opportunity to install double-glazed windows in your living room, to use lots of natural light, and to angle the roof at just the right pitch for maximum effect.

DECOR

DYNAMICS

Remodeling your living room or even an office gives you the chance to finally get rid of that nasty wallpaper you just know is hiding under a few layers of paint.

Open up the space you have and make your living areas warm and inviting. Decide before you begin what lighting concept to use, and choose fixtures and features that complete your selection.

Take into consideration the needs of the room, and what the room is used for.





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A person in a wetsuit carrying a yellow and red surfboard walks away from the camera on a sandy beach. The ocean with white-capped waves is in the background under a clear sky. The text 'NEXT STEPS' is overlaid on the image.

NEXT STEPS

So you've decided to remodel and are eager to get going. Where do you start, and what are the critical steps you need to complete to turn your plan into a reality?

APPOINT A REMODELER

Finding and appointing a reputable remodeler is the first thing to do. Look for a remodeler you can trust, who comes with excellent references and offers a fair price for the task. If possible, finding a remodeler that handles both the design and the construction can simplify the process greatly. It's always a good idea to work with a remodeler who gets to know you and your needs and takes the time to sit down with clients in their homes to discuss their vision, needs, budget, and lifestyle. This allows your remodeler to see exactly what might be missing in a home renovation project and clearly identify how we can get the most out of your budget. Make sure you find a remodeler who fosters collaboration in all parts of your remodel—design, product choices, specs, costs and architectural plans.

One of the most common concerns (after how much a project will cost) is how long a project will take. The answer? "It all depends." No two projects are exactly the same, and there can be a lot of different variables. Your remodeler should be able to provide you with an outline and specific expectations so that you'll have an accurate idea of how long your project will take.

ABOUT GILBERT DESIGN BUILD



Gilbert Design Build is a full-service design/build remodeling firm that specializes in kitchen and bath & other select remodeling projects in both Manatee and Sarasota counties.

We are passionate about remodeling homes. After all, we are homeowners too. That's why in 2001 we created a company that offered everything we thought would be important if we engaged a remodeling company.

We believe in a better way. Most of the folks that hire us do not have the time, or simply do not want an experience as previously described. They wish to describe what they are looking for and to have someone (who has done this hundreds of times before) guide and assist them throughout the entire process in a professional manner.



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