



Remodeling Reflects Personal Style

Does your home currently reflect your personal style? If not, consider remodeling to showcase your family's personality and lifestyle.

James Mathusek of Gallery Homes, custom home builder and remodeler, encourages clients to discuss their ideal lifestyle or favorite memories to help them envision their completed remodeling project. "The homeowner's imagination is the only limitation when updating their home. Whatever the magnitude of the remodeling project – a bath, kitchen or a whole house update – we can implement the homeowner's creative ideas and eclectic flair using unique materials and craftsmanship to design your perfect retreat."

The reasons for home remodeling are as varied as the projects we undertake. Some of these include:

- **Adding more space**
- **Upgrading cabinets, counters, appliances, and fixtures.**
- **Creating a floor plan that's customized for your lifestyle**
- **Improving energy efficiency with new windows, doors, insulation, and climate control systems**
- **Increasing the resale value of your home**

The first step is to develop an idea of what you want to do with your home remodel. Write a prioritized list of your needs and wants. Look at magazines and Web sites and collect pictures of what homes or remodeling projects you like. The more clearly you can envision the project and describe it on paper, the better prepared you'll be in making your decision.

Think about traffic patterns, furniture size and placement, colors, lighting and how you expect to use the remodeled space. You may want to improve home efficiency and hire a remodeler for a green home remodeling project - replacing windows and doors, upgrading heating and cooling systems, adding insulation, and other remodeling to make the home more energy-efficient, easier to maintain, and comfortable.

Renovating existing homes to add modern conveniences but retain historic charm is a skill that Phil Baeten of Baeten Building & Remodeling, LLC utilizes when updating the original homes in Oshkosh. "We take pride in restoring and updating homes so it looks like they're untouched by time, matching architecture and style to enhance value and appeal. Also, Phil can't stress enough the value of a whole house energy study that builders such as Baeten Building & Remodeling offer to every customer. Being able to prioritize issues in the home while considering expected pay back, is a huge help in planning any changes. ■