



A REMODELER FOR THE NEW Phase of your Life

CASE STUDY: The Maatman Residence

Janice and Vaughn Maatman were ready to downsize and be rid of the burden of yearly house maintenance and yard work. In the summer of 2010, they purchased a condominium in the Parkview Hills neighborhood and looked forward to the new chapter in their lives. But before the "carefree" condominium phase could begin, a few changes needed to be made to their new abode. The standard kitchen that was put in all of the condominiums back in 1995 was functional but very stark. The appliances and cabinets were worn, outdated and just looked old.

Janice never had a second thought on who to call to give their new "condo" a facelift. "We had worked with Bob DeHaan from DeHaan Remodeling Specialists (DRS) over 17 years ago at our old house," said Janice. "He had remodeled our kitchen there and I knew I could trust him to do another fantastic job here." Having limited space, the Maatman's needed to keep the same basic footprint to the room, but wanted to add some modern style. "We wanted to add a snack bar with stools to divide the kitchen from the breakfast nook, but other than that, we had little idea of what would actually work," stated Janice.







That's when Bob put pen to paper to work out all of the details.

He did several drawings of different layout options before the Maatmans decided on the final plan. "Bob has a great sense of design and perfection," affirms Janice. The desired snack bar with pendant lighting was added, along with new cabinetry, granite counter tops, flooring and appliances. A new fan was added over the stove to supply a more powerful exhaust.

"I actually liked the other line of cabinets that DRS carries at first, but Bob talked us into their Great Northern line...and I'm so glad he did," confirmed Janice. "They were a little more expensive but the superior quality was well worth it. I love the craftsmanship and convenient features they offer such as the pull-out spice rack and bottom shelving."

Continued on back







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Professional Remodelers VS New Construction Builders

We've heard a lot of advice on the advantage of choosing a new home builder for your remodeling project - from cost saving to quality construction. But there are some important reasons why you should choose a professional remodeler for renovation projects.

New home builders think of walls as places to lay wiring, vents, pipes and other essential elements. But professional remodelers are acutely aware of the peculiar variations behind those walls that were built 10 or 100 years ago.

You might be thinking, "If they're a good builder they should be able to handle it." But building techniques and products have changed drastically over the past 10 years alone, and most new construction builders wouldn't know what they were looking at if they started to change the structural walls and foundation of an older home.

Professional remodelers like DRS have seen it all because that is what we do. From on the job experience to the training it takes to acquire special designations like CGR (Certified Graduate Remodeler) and CAPS (Certified Aging-In-Place Specialist), professional remodelers have expertise unique to navigating centuries of building codes and construction.

Unlike new home builders, professional remodelers understand they're working in a functioning household, and that they'll be a part of the family's daily life for the duration of the project.

We ask lifestyle questions that will make the project as easy as possible for the family, like: What are the best times of day for work? How should we interact with your pets? Are there any family routines we should be aware of? Professional remodelers also know to be mindful of noise and dust, keeping their language, music and workspace clean to provide the safest and best experience possible.

Can a new home builder do your home renovation project? Sure. But ask yourself why they would be taking on remodeling in the first place. After all, their specialty is new construction, not remodeling. As professional remodelers, remodeling IS our specialty. We build long term relationships with our clients and their homes - it's the reason why the majority of our clients do business with us over and over, as well as refer us to their family and friends.



Maatman Residence Continued.

The Maatman's remained living in the condominum while all of the remodeling was taking place, which can be a challenge within itself. "All of the sub-contractors were very respectful," Janice noted. "They knew we were trying to live there, so the place was always cleaned up when we returned each day. Plus, the entire project took 6 weeks...exactly what Bob told us at the start."

When asked how she would describe her new kitchen Janice simply states, "It *feels like home*." I guess we can't ask for anything better than that.



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Bob DeHaan is a Certified Graduate Remodeler and a Certified Aging-In Place Specialist. Designated by the National Home Builders Association.

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