



It is a rare home that has been designed with sufficient storage areas for all the items a typical homeowner has collected through the years. Surveys repeatedly show that homeowners place "more storage" near the top of the list of needs for their homes, and they identify the kitchen as one of the areas most lacking in adequate storage.

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Kitchen STORAGE SOLUTIONS

All Phase Remodeling's Designs Offer Payback

Spring is just around the corner and NOW is the time to be planning and designing for your upcoming remodeling projects. When **All Phase Remodeling** designs with you, we focus on making your home as beautiful and stylish as you envision it. We also focus on other areas, such as: (1) project features with "payback" for you, and (2) features that make your space work for you, not just now, but as you and your family evolve through various life stages. We include many green features in our projects--most of which are not immediately obvious--such as closed cell insulation, energy efficient windows, proper ventilation, etc. Our energy efficient design can help your home pay you back over the years in energy savings.

A second focus of our designs has to do with life stage design--helping your home fit your needs throughout your lifetime. It may incorporate universal design features, such

as wider doorways that can accommodate everyone in your home, including a family member who may need to use a wheelchair at a later date. Perhaps it's an addition that is designed dually as a space for an aging parent now and as a master bedroom suite for you in the future. Thinking ahead, we design adaptable spaces that address your current and future needs.

Our dedication to satisfying our clients has resulted in repeat business and continuous referrals from satisfied homeowners over the past 28 years. Visit our website at www.allphaseremodeling.com and see for yourself how we create and execute beautiful designs in any space! **The MSU Spring Home & Garden Show is coming! March 13th - 16th at the MSU Pavilion.**

Our location has MOVED this year to booth #1408. Coupons are available on our website and in our office. ■

What is GOOD DESIGN

If you were asked to describe good design for a master bathroom, what would come to mind? Perhaps you would think of the current trends, like open spaces and a sleek modern look. Especially if your own master bath looks outdated, it would be natural for your thoughts to go there—to envision that space transformed into something more luxurious.

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TOTO test kitchen

Kitchen STORAGE SOLUTIONS

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At the same time, homeowners today are actively removing their kitchen walls to create open floor plans. In order to expand existing kitchens beyond their original confines, homeowners are knocking down

kitchen walls that once may have provided floor-to-ceiling storage. The challenge, therefore, is to design a kitchen storage solution that optimizes every inch of space and functions well within an open kitchen layout.

When a kitchen has fewer walls, the available cabinets will become even more important for storage. In the past, they were often no more than big boxes fitted with doors and several immovable shelves. Not only is this

system inconvenient and awkward for the homeowner, it also is an inefficient use of available space.

Within an expanded kitchen space, a popular option is to design an island that not only can provide seating and food prep space, but also can provide additional storage underneath.

Wall cabinets can be designed floor-to-ceiling, to optimize wall space. The backsplash area can also be put to use.

Organization Options



- Corner slide out units with kidney-shaped sliding shelves utilize all of the dead space in a corner base cabinet, and give full access to all the items.



- A lift-up unit provides easy access to the interior of a wall cabinet, with a mechanism that keeps the door from opening further than desired.



- Deep drawers offer more storage than cabinets with internal shelving. Full extension glides make all the content easily accessible, and a soft close mechanism closes the drawer without a sound. A deep drawer may open like a standard drawer, or may be concealed behind a cabinet door. Deep drawers often include removable pegs for stacking dishes or organizing pots and pans.



- A narrow stainless steel tambour unit provides hidden storage in close proximity to the work space.



- Pot and pan organizers offer enclosed hanging storage for these difficult to store items.

HIDDEN GEMS

When homeowners decide to remodel, a frequent reason is the need for more space. Maybe they are expecting a new baby, or maybe they are starting a home business, or perhaps their elderly parents are coming to live with them.

Of course, one excellent option for increasing space in a home is to build an addition. This is usually the first solution that comes to mind, since an addition can be designed from the ground up to fulfill a homeowner's needs and vision exactly. In some situations, however, expanding a home—whether outward, upward or downward—is not possible. There may be legal restrictions, or the cost may be more than the homeowner's budget can allow.



VERSOTO Table Extension

Photo: Courtesy of Richelleu (www.richelleu.com)

A new addition is not the only solution to consider. Professional remodelers are able to think creatively about how interior space is arranged. They can often re-engineer the home's floor plan, improving the functionality of the interior space, without making changes to the footprint of the home. Square footage may be "stolen" from one room and used to enlarge an adjoining room. Walls can be removed and a large, open space created from two smaller rooms.

Sometimes the dimensions of a room cannot be altered. In this case, a remodeler can suggest ways of maximizing the space in that room. Perhaps it is a small kitchen where flexibility is important, since the kids like to congregate there after school, eat snacks and do homework. One idea is to design a kitchen island with a thick-edged countertop that can slide out to reveal a hidden cooktop. While the countertop is extended, it also forms a convenient dining/work surface. When it is retracted, there is more room to move



Photo: Courtesy of Richelleu (www.richelleu.com)

Sliding Worktop—extended to reveal the cooktop



Wall-bed open



Wall-bed closed

Photos: Courtesy of Showplace Wood (www.showplacewood.com)

about in the kitchen. Perhaps a tiny home office must double as a guest room. One solution is to fit the room with fully functioning tables that are concealed in cabinetry and then extended only when needed. A retractable wall-bed can be installed into the cabinetry, and the bed can "disappear" during the daytime. ■

New Product Introductions

RECEIVING ACCOLADES

The new 36 inch Jenn-Air Accolade downdraft ventilation system is capturing more than smoke and cooking odors. It is also capturing a lot of attention in the kitchen with its modern, yet subtle appearance that makes a powerful design statement.

Hand-crafted of stainless steel and glass, the arc-shaped ventilation system telescopes to 19 inches when in use and when not, it virtually disappears beneath the countertop. The curved, sculptural profile is designed to place ventilation power as close as possible to the cooking source. The high performance system removes cooking smoke at a rate of up to 1,200 cubic feet per minute (CFM).

The system is designed with concealed controls, as well as discreet LED lights that indicate fan speed and announce when the dishwasher-safe filters need cleaning. ■



Photo: Courtesy of Jenn-Air (www.jennair.com)

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All Phase Remodeling, Inc.
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Additions • Kitchens • Baths • Basements • Exteriors
Custom Cabinetry • Handicap Remodeling • Handyman Services

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What is GOOD DESIGN

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Within the kitchen and bath industry, good design means beautiful design, but it also signifies much more. It also encompasses design that has a minimal impact on the environment. And it is design that, without drawing attention to itself, enables homeowners to live in their homes safely, conveniently, and economically throughout their full life cycle. This inclusive design philosophy that incorporates beauty, environmental sustainability, and Universal Design (UD) is often referred to as "socially-sustainable design".

Today's kitchen and bath professionals, whether remodelers or manufacturers, advocate this much broader understanding of good design. We recognize the importance of taking into consideration not only the needs of people with physical challenges or the elderly, but also the needs of people of all ages and abilities. We seek to create home environments that are convenient and pleasurable for young children and teenagers, as well as pregnant women. In other words, we take into account anyone who may be living in your home right now, as well as those who may come to stay with you in the future.

How do we, along with the other industry professionals who contribute to the built environment, determine what design is usable and most effective for all people? It happens through a combination of years of research, experience, education and shared knowledge. And you simply get to enjoy the benefits.

Here is one interesting example: TOTO is a plumbing products manufacturer that conducts research in the area of UD and then joins with other professionals to share information and discuss key issues. As TOTO develops new products, it concentrates on five principles of UD: 1. Minimal physical exertion; 2. Simple and intuitive; 3. Adaptability; 4. Comfort; 5. Safety. The company gathers much of its information from research conducted at its Universal Design Research Center for Advanced Science & Technology. New products are closely monitored at the Center as people of varying ages and physical abilities interact with them to discover what specific things people find difficult to use or inconvenient. TOTO has expressed that its intention is not only to improve its own products, but to help create a significant focus on good design within the entire building industry. ■

The Wyeth Inclusive Design Bath Suite by TOTO

