

HOUSE & HOME

Central Jersey

Your #1 Resource and Design Magazine

Volume 22, Issue 7

Deck Guardian

Creating beautiful outdoor spaces that exceed expectations

page 21

**ASK
THE
EXPERT**



**ROCK BOTTOM
LANDSCAPING &
FENCING**

*The benefits of hiring a full-service
landscape professional* page 19

SETTING THE TONE
*The right hardscaping adds
elegance and appeal*

Visit www.HouseMagazine.com to view our Online Design Center



ColonialMarble.net

Stone is
always in season.

NOW SERVING **CENTRAL AND NORTHERN
NEW JERSEY**

\$1,999 Granite Countertop Special.

FULLY INSTALLED UP TO 50 SQ FT, on any promotional granite.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE to schedule an appointment.

\$0 DOWN AND 0% MONTHLY INTEREST for 18 months**



COLONIAL
MARBLE & GRANITE

COLONIAL MARBLE & GRANITE SHOWROOMS

EDISON, NJ | NEW CASTLE, DE | PHILADELPHIA, PA | HARRISBURG, PA | KING OF PRUSSIA, PA | **OPEN 7 DAYS**

*Fully installed up to 50 sq ft, on any promotional granite.

**On purchases of \$1999 or more. \$29 account activation fee will apply. Visit ColonialMarble.net for details.

LIC# PA 040713 | LIC# NJ 13VH06363500 | LIC# DE 2011604522 | LIC# MD 115930



DO IT **ONCE**
DO IT **RIGHT**



TrexPRO
PLATINUM

NJHIC# 13VH00371800

VISIT OUR DESIGN CENTER

8 Route 31, Flemington, NJ

908-713-1000 www.mydeck.com

Call Today for a Free Estimate!  855.624.6655



AS SEEN ON
GEORGE TO THE RESCUE



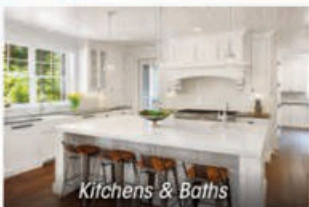

Masonry



Roofing & Siding



Windows & Doors



Kitchens & Baths



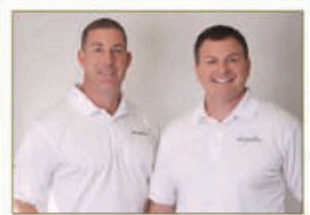
Decks & Porches

Magnolia™
HOME REMODELING GROUP

ROOFING | SIDING | WINDOWS

KITCHENS | BATHROOMS | BASEMENTS

MASONRY | DECKS | PORCHES



Payment Plans

WINDOWS \$209	BASEMENTS \$395
KITCHENS \$389	BATHROOMS \$199
ROOFING \$249	DECKS/PATIOS \$189
SIDING \$289	PORCHES/STEPS \$185

0% Plans Available!

Estimated monthly payments.
Rates & payments based on credit approval.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS ALSO AVAILABLE

Interior & Exterior Remodeling | Family Owned & Operated

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | 30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

NJDCA 13VH07755300

MagnoliaHomeRemodeling.com 

SUMMER FUN

Enjoy Your Backyard

SHOP EARLY FOR BEST SELECTION

Guaranteed Lowest Price 20%-50% OFF

KAYAKS
GET OUT ON THE WATER TODAY!



Kayaks Starting at: \$399

STAND UP PADDLE BOARDS
Largest Selection - Best Brands



Complete Packages Starting at: \$599

Patio Furniture

HUGE SELECTION!
Cushions & Umbrellas Available

New Jersey's Largest Selection of Outdoor Wicker, Dining & Fire Tables!

Immediate Delivery Available - We Deliver To The Jersey Shore

PRESENT THIS AD FOR

ADDITIONAL

10% OFF*
PATIO FURNITURE

*All Grills Are Excluded!
Ends 6/1/22



Grills



STARTING AT \$569

FREE DELIVERY & ASSEMBLY

WEBER GRILLS

	REG \$	SALE \$
55020001 Q2400 Electric	\$499.99	\$399.00
54060001 Q2200 LP	\$429.99	\$329.00
46110001 Spirit E-210	\$699.99	\$569.00
47510001 Spirit E-310	\$849.99	\$699.00
46502001 Spirit S-315	\$949.99	\$799.00
46802101 Spirit SP-335	\$1,079.99	\$929.00
61011201 Genesis II SE-310	\$1,129.99	\$929.00
35310001 Genesis E-325s	\$1,249.99	\$999.00
35313301 Genesis SPE-325s	\$1,379.99	\$1,129.00
35400001 Genesis S-335	\$1,679.99	\$1,429.00
36400001 Genesis S-435	\$1,999.99	\$1,749.00
7270001 Summit S-470	\$3,099.99	\$2,749.00
7370001 Summit S-670	\$3,899.99	\$3,649.00
291001 Summit Grill Center	\$4,949.99	\$4,499.00
22510201 SmokeFire EX4	\$1,299.99	\$1,099.00

NG Available at Additional Charge

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES! HOT TUBS



LARGEST DISPLAY IN NJ!



IN STOCK



SWIM SPAS IN STOCK

Order Your Pool or Hot Tub Now For Spring Delivery & Install

ABOVE GROUND POOLS



We Build Better.



UP TO 30% OFF RENAISSANCE

	REGULAR	SALE
52" Pool		
12'	\$2,395	\$1,677
15'	\$2,895	\$2,027
18'	\$3,595	\$2,517
21'	\$4,495	\$3,147
24'	\$5,095	\$3,567
27'	\$5,895	\$4,127
12'x18'	\$5,895	\$4,127
12'x24'	\$6,095	\$4,267
15'x24'	\$6,895	\$4,827
15'x30'	\$7,495	\$5,247
18'x33'	\$8,195	\$5,737



Pelican

Worth The Trip From Anywhere!

Monday - Saturday 10am-6pm • Sunday 10am-5pm

Whitehouse, NJ
3555 Route 22
908-534-2534

Discount Coupons at
PelicanShops.com

20% OFF Intex Pools!
Guaranteed Lowest Prices In New Jersey



Pool Party!

Swim-Mor makes them happen.

BEST



Plan Your Pool Design Today!

In-House New Pool Design,
Construction and Service.

Complete Pool Renovations
and Modernizations.

Lifetime Structural Warranty*



swim-mor
POOLS & SPAS

Family owned & operated for over 50 years.

There's No Time to Waste, Start
Planning Your Pool Party TODAY!

Call (856) 456- 3332

so you can party all summer long



Dozens of amazing pool designs
at www.swimmor.com

SINCE 1967 :NJ HIC REG# 13VH0015000 :
SWIM-MOR POOLS & SPAS IS THE LEGAL
TRADE NAME OF BONETTI ENTERPRISES, INC.
*SEE POOL CONTRACT FOR DETAILS



Mt. Ephraim, NJ | Northfield, NJ | Millstone Twp, NJ | www.swimmor.com



Custom Decks & Porches

EXPERTLY CRAFTED FOR FUNCTION AND FUN



HOME IMPROVEMENTS, LLC.

732.955.6321

www.LegendsBuilt.com

NJ HIC 13VH07609600

Building Custom Decks for Over 40 Years

- Outdoor Kitchens & Fireplaces
- Screen Rooms & Porches
- Patio Roofing

9 NADRA NATIONAL
DECK AWARDS





RELIABLE &
AFFORDABLE

- Beautifully Designed & Installed Shower Enclosures
- Exercise / Ballet Mirrors
- Custom Fitted Mirrored Walls
- Elegant Glass Table Tops
- Call For FREE Estimate
- We Will Match Any Competitors Written Estimate



www.GlassCastle.com



Glass Castle

Come see us at either of our beautiful showrooms:
843 Route 202 South, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853
1811 Princeton Avenue, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Neshanic Station
(908) 751-4481

Lawrenceville
(609) 531-0303



A NEW WAY TO ENJOY THE OUTDOORS



Professional
Installation
Included




Many
Options
Available



"Quality you can see since 1988"

Schildr manufactures high-quality outdoor enclosure systems of glass and aluminum construction, which can increase your living space without any major construction.



1014 Route 33 East, Freehold, NJ 07728 • **732-462-1131**
danielle@awningdesign.net • www.awningsdesign.net
Fully Insured • NJ License #13VH00533800

RETRACTABLE WATERPROOF PERGOLAS • LOUVERED PERGOLA • SUNROOMS



contents

12 Setting the Tone

The right hardscaping can add new dimensions and appeal to your outdoor living space.

19 Ask the Expert

Rock Bottom
Landscaping & Fencing

21 Here to Please

Outstanding customer service is the No. 1 priority for the folks at Deck Guardian.

22 The Big Potential of Small Bathrooms

Experts weigh in on how to maximize space in the home's tinier washrooms.

27 Spring Showcase Special Advertising Section

28 Flooring It

From hardwood to luxury vinyl and more, homeowners have plenty of flooring options to fit their needs and budget.



Booking Pool Installations for **2022**

**Family Owned and Operated
Over 40 Years Experience!**

WE REPLACE VINYL LINERS!

**Friendly On-Site Repair & Service
We Service All Pools
Full Retail Store**

POOL DESIGNS

609-324-9900
Poolinaday.com
**22 Route 130
Yardville, NJ**

Booking Openings and Weekly Cleaning Packages for **2022**

CUSTOM CABINETRY FOR DISCRIMINATING HOMEOWNERS



Crafting Exceptional Kitchens and Baths
Throughout the Delaware Valley and New Jersey
Since 1956

Beco INC.

Unmatched 5-year warranty on our carpentry
222 E. Bridge Street • Morrisville, PA
(215) 295-7123
www.beco-designs.com

Lic #PA024082 | NJ Lic #13VH01312200



HOUSE & HOME

YOUR #1 RESOURCE AND DESIGN MAGAZINE SINCE 1999

housemagazine.com

PUBLISHER

Edward P. McCartney

EDITOR

Peter Proko

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Liz Hunter

ASSISTANT EDITORS

Matt Cosentino, Madeleine Maccar

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Hank Alspach

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Brian Mikulski

DESIGNERS

Abby Lurty, Dori Shields, Lisa Zollinger

ACCOUNTING DIRECTOR

Darlene Versak

SALES DIRECTOR

Lindsay Gonzalez

SALES MANAGER

Jim Romano

NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPER

Chuck McKane

MARKETING CONSULTANTS

Kristine Di Nardo, Rochelle Dodge, Frank Liantonio,

Bonnie Remmey, Lori Vorgang, Amy B. Weiss

ACCOUNTANT

Max Haggerty

DIGITAL MEDIA DIRECTOR

Leigh Stuart

PUBLISHER EMERITUS

Bob Doran

EXECUTIVE PARTNERS

Gerry Haggerty, Edward P. McCartney

HOUSE & HOME

HOUSE & HOME Magazine, LLC, dba HOUSE & HOME ("H&H"). H&H reserves the right to determine the suitability of all materials submitted for publication and to edit all submitted materials for clarity and space. H&H is not responsible for loss, damage or any other injury to unsolicited manuscripts, unsolicited artwork or any other unsolicited materials. Furthermore, H&H will assume that unsolicited photographs, as well as ad photographs, are being submitted for possible publication and should they be published, no fee is due the photographer or model unless otherwise agreed upon in advance in writing.

HOUSE & HOME is a news magazine with emphasis on home repair and remodeling. H&H does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertising or editorial content, nor does H&H or its staff, editors or writers assume responsibility should such advertising or editorial content appear in any publications. Readers are encouraged to notify H&H if they suspect false or misleading advertising.

Before attempting any renovation or repair project mentioned in H&H, readers are advised to consult with professional home repair and renovation specialists for assistance, and to take any and all appropriate safety precautions.

HOUSE & HOME has not independently tested any products or services advertised herein and has verified no claims made by its advertisers regarding those services or products. HOUSE & HOME makes no warranties or representations and assumes no liability for any claims regarding those services or products or claims made by advertisers regarding such products or services. Readers are advised to consult with the advertiser and/or other home repair and renovation professionals regarding any such claims and regarding the suitability of an advertiser's products.

No reproduction of printed materials is permitted without the consent of the publisher of HOUSE & HOME. Copyright 2012 by HOUSE & HOME Magazine, LLC, all rights reserved. Subscription available for home delivery at our website, www.HouseMagazine.com, at a cost of \$19.95 per year.

National Sales Office:

HOUSE & HOME Magazine, LLC

700 E. Main St.

Norristown, PA 19401

Phone: 610-272-3120 Fax: 610-272-2805

Email: info@housemagazine.com

Regional Editions:

Bucks County HOUSE & HOME - PA

Central Jersey HOUSE & HOME - NJ

Delaware HOUSE & HOME - DE

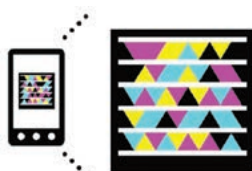
DelChester/Main Line West HOUSE & HOME - PA

Montco/Main Line East HOUSE & HOME - PA

Northern Jersey HOUSE & HOME - NJ

South Jersey HOUSE & HOME - NJ

Visit www.HouseMagazine.com to view digital versions of each of the above editions.



Get the free mobile app at
<http://gettag.mobi>

Imagine your home,
totally organized!

Call For
Our Current
Specials

Special
Financing
Available

Custom Closets, Garage Cabinets,
Home Offices and more...

**40% OFF PLUS
FREE INSTALLATION**

40% off any order of \$1000 or more. 30% off any order of \$700 or more. Not valid with any other offer.
Free installation with any complete unit order of \$500 or more.
With incoming order, at time of purchase only.



HH

**Closets
byDesign**

Call for a free in home design consultation and estimate

888-500-9215

www.closetsbydesign.com

Licensed and Insured

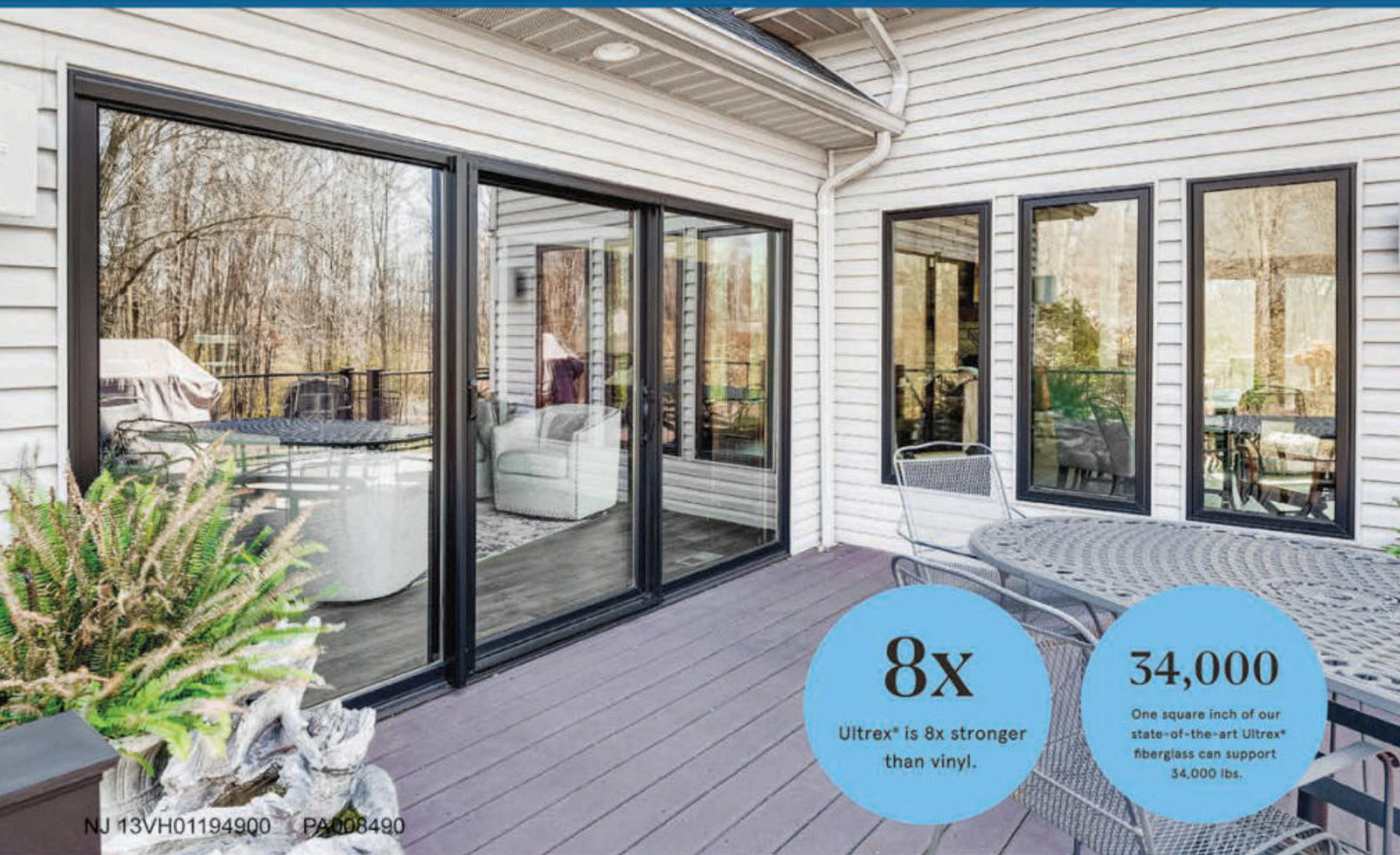
NJ Lic. # 13VH08945100 - 13VH00247800

2008 © All Rights Reserved. Closets by Design, Inc.

Crafted with Ultrex[®] Fiberglass -
the PERFECT window material

GLOBAL
HOME IMPROVEMENT

INFINITY
from **MARVIN**
REPLACEMENT WINDOWS
Built for life[®]



NJ 13VH01194900 PA008490

8x

Ultrex[®] is 8x stronger
than vinyl.

34,000

One square inch of our
state-of-the-art Ultrex[®]
fiberglass can support
34,000 lbs.

DISCOVER INFINITY FIBERGLASS WINDOWS & DOORS FROM MARVIN



ULTREX[®]
MITERED CORNERS



VINYL
WELDED CORNERS

- 8X Stronger Than Vinyl
- Narrow Frame is Ideal for Replacement Windows
- Low Expansion Contraction Prevents Seal Failure
- Non-porous and 100% Moisture Resistant
- LIFETIME MATERIAL & LABOR GUARANTEE
- Expert Installation with the option for Replacement Style or Full Frame Window Installation Methods

10% OFF + 24 MONTHS OF 0% INTEREST FINANCING
ON ALL INFINITY FIBERGLASS WINDOWS & DOORS FROM MARVIN!

Subject to Credit Approval & Terms & Conditions. Cannot be combined with other offers, existing orders or special financing.

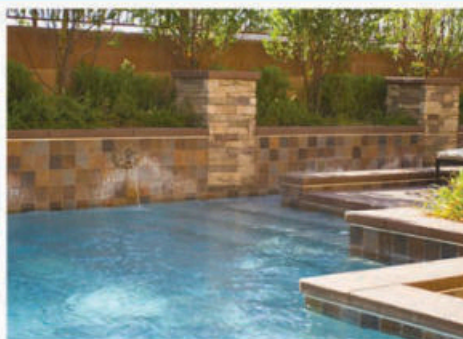
Call 866-735-1121 • NO-HASSLE ESTIMATES • Globalhomeinc.com



NEW POOLS, RENOVATIONS & POOL OPENINGS



Liners



Concrete & Tile



Fibre Tech

747 Route 18 - East Brunswick NJ, 08816
www.stardust-pools.com | 732.691.4038
customerservice@stardust-pools.com

Like us on Facebook
[/stardustpoolsandspa](https://www.facebook.com/stardustpoolsandspa)

Follow us on Instagram
[@stardust_pools](https://www.instagram.com/stardust_pools)



License 13WH01304600

Walk Into your Clean, Safe Garage...
 Everything in its Place...Finally!

- Many styles and colors
- Fully customizable
- Beautiful custom flooring
- Durable, time-tested, state of the art

Call Us Now &
SAVE up to 15%



of North and Central Jersey
 732-201-3856
GarageTekNCNJ.net



Setting the TONE

It's easy to see
how hardscaping
contributes to the
overall feel of
your outdoor space.

BY LIZ HUNTER

When it's time to add some life to your yard, you may immediately think of blooming flowers and shrubs, but some of the best elements are of the non-living variety: hardscaping. Walkways, patios, retaining walls, fire pits, outdoor kitchens and countless other accents can bring the ideal balance to the landscaping of a home. But choosing the right material requires professional insight.

"Hardscaping is an essential element to the overall look of a property because it can cohesively bring together your home with the outside environment," says Reuben Stoltzfus, owner of EWB. "Without hardscaping, landscaping falls short because it lacks structure. Flowers, plants and trees can soften hardscaping. Outdoor living is vital to the overall function of your home. A combination of hardscaping and landscaping can most definitely define the vitality of your outdoor living area and the overall look and feel of your property."

TRUST IT TO THE PROS

Although some homeowners may think they can tackle a hardscaping project on their own over the course of a couple of weekends, there are some things only a professional can address.

"With outdoor living projects one of the most important aspects of the overall project is having a proper foundation. Without it you could see water build up, or even your patio becoming uneven over the years," Stoltzfus continues. "Water management often has its own permit aside from other permits required by townships. Of course, each township has

specific requirements, but without professional water management it's a big area [of concern] with even getting the project started and then passing final inspection. It is best for the homeowner and the property to go with a professional."

When meeting with potential contractors, Michael Tarleton, owner of TLC Landscaping, says it can be easy to spot the inexperienced. "You'll know if someone knows what they are talking about, whether or not they are well-versed in natural stone walls and different types of materials. It's simple to figure out if they've done it before," he says.

John DiJiosia Jr., owner and president of Plymouth Nursery & Landscape Co., says working with natural stone is a lost art. "It's rare to find people in this business who are skilled in the art of



"A COMBINATION OF HARDSCAPING AND LANDSCAPING CAN MOST DEFINITELY DEFINE THE VITALITY OF YOUR OUTDOOR LIVING AREA AND THE OVERALL LOOK AND FEEL OF YOUR PROPERTY."

Reuben Stoltzfus, EWB

Setting the TONE

natural stone. Stonemasonry as a trade originated in Italy, which is where my family is from. My father learned it from his father,” he says. “They’ve passed down the art of dressing a stone—shaping it by hand, chiseling it to create the desired shape—and then setting it individually. It’s a lot more time-consuming.”

NATURAL OR NOT

All materials have their place in outdoor living, and while some are best used in certain projects, it ultimately comes down to client preference and budget.

“I think natural stone can be used in a variety of circumstances, whether the home is 300 years old or new,” says DiJiosia. “Aesthetically, some people like a modern look and in some cases, manufactured stones have a modern feel as opposed to old world, natural stone. However, with that said, flagstone can be used successfully in a modern design.”

Budget comes into play, he continues. “On average, a project with natural stone will be at least 30% more than using manufactured stone, and that’s not because of material costs, it’s the time and labor to install it.”

In terms of style, Tarleton confirms that trends are leaning modern. “People want a smoother, classic look and are moving away from rustic looks.”

And while Tarleton “can make something beautiful with whatever material a client wants, whether it’s pavers or bluestone,” he does have some advice and preferences of his own to recommend. One being not to use bluestone around a pool. “Bluestone is going to get very hot, so you may not want to be walking on it barefoot in the summer. For that I would recommend pavers or a different natural stone. Pavers do fade over time, but natural stone stays consistent over time,” he says.

He recommends natural stone for walkways, and for driveways he likes asphalt. “We can finish off the driveway with a paver border that adds beauty and polishes it off,” Tarleton says.

If a homeowner does go with pavers on their project, Stoltzfus says, “There are many different paver design patterns to choose from when it comes to the layout of pavers, like herringbone, running bond, and basketweave. EWBN works with Newline Hardscapes, a division of York Building Products. Anything from Newline has a lifetime warranty, which is another reason we love the line.”

DiJiosia says homeowners may also want to consider thermal flagstone. These are cut into uniform thickness and treated with a thermal method that leaves a smooth surface on the stone. It also creates a more uniform color and texture of the stone if the naturally quarried variegation of the stone isn’t preferred by the homeowner.

As the popularity of stone sitting walls and fire pits and fireplaces shows no signs of waning, hardscaping companies continue to invest in innovative products to bring these to life.



“People continue to look for ways to create gathering areas in their backyards for entertaining in small groups,” Tarleton says. “In the realm of fire pits, outdoor kitchens and fireplaces, we’re seeing a lot more things happening.”

DiJiosia says EP Henry offers fire pit kits that come in a few standard varieties of round or square, and several colors.

“Retaining walls, patios and fire pits are products we create using Newline Hardscapes,” says Stoltzfus. “A popular choice from our customers is a curved sitting wall that borders part of a fire pit and large stepper steps. Both make a statement, but also are a functional part of the overall design.”

For sitting walls, DiJiosia says there are a couple of ways they can be constructed. One is building the wall entirely out of stones, or with the use of stone veneer over a cinder block structure.

“The entire interior would be cinder block and then stone veneer would stick onto that to create the look you want. It’s not necessarily less expensive to do it that way because the application of stone veneer has more steps, but it can sometimes be easier to work with,” he says. “It comes down to the availability of the stone you may want.”

UPDATING CONCRETE

For properties with concrete on exterior spaces, there are ways to bring new life to those surfaces with a polyurea coating.

ONE STEP AHEAD.

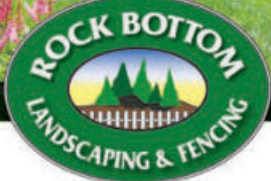
curved & roofed decks
outdoor fireplaces & kitchens
pergolas & screened porches

A *mazing Decks*
DECK BUILDERS

Call today for your free consultation

215.654.1886 | anotheramazingdeck.com

Design. Build. Maintain.



BEST of HOUSE & HOME 2021

Call Today 732-873-6780

CREATING CUSTOM OUTDOOR SPACES FOR OVER 30 YEARS

Weekly Lawn Cutting & Maintenance Specialist

- Poolscapes
- Hardscapes
- Landscape Design & Service
- Lighting
- Outdoor Kitchens
- Retaining Walls
- Customized Lawn Care
- Fencing
- Mailbox Posts
- Snow Removal
- Patios & Walkways
- Asphalt Paving

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT ON STAFF • LICENSED CONTRACTOR
ICPI CERTIFIED CONCRETE PAVER INSTALLER
 Get moving on your project now to ensure spring schedule

License #13VH04549200

www.rockbottomlandscaping.net

AROMAZI HOME
Flooring & Design

BEST of HOUSE & HOME 2021

Spring
SALE



FLOORING & Home Improvement



◀ Request a **FREE**
ESTIMATE

Setting the TONE

Bogdan Pop, principal of Transylvania Concrete Coatings, says concrete is susceptible to the freeze-thaw cycles, which cause it to crack and deteriorate over time. With a coating, Pop says they first prep the slab by filling the cracks and then pour the polyurea coating over, which has elasticity to move with the expansion in spring and summer and contraction in the winter.

“This coating is especially good for pool decks,” says Pop. “It reflects UV rays so the coating does not get hot on feet as concrete would and we can put in an additive to make it more slip resistant. It’s also good for patios, front porches and driveways.”

The product is available in a wide variety of colors and textures and can be customized to clients’ requests. Not only that, Pop says there is minimal disruption to a customer’s life

RESOURCES

EWBN
New Holland, Pa.
(717) 355-0741
EWBN.net

Plymouth Nursery & Landscape Co.
Plymouth Meeting, Pa.
(610) 277-4120
PlymouthNursery.com

TLC Landscaping
Midland Park, N.J.
(201) 321-2421
Tarleton-Landscaping.com

Transylvania Concrete Coatings
Blackwood, N.J.
(856) 212-1109
HouseAndHome.OneDayFloors.com

during installation. “In most cases we can complete the project in one day and the surface is typically ready for foot traffic within three to five hours after installation,” he says. **H&H**

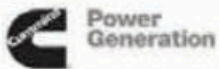


One Call Keeps Your Home Prepared

Never Lose Power Again



- Inventory In Stock Now!
- Financing Available
- 24/7 Monitoring
- 5 Year Warranty



GENERAC

KOHLER
GENERATORS

Cummins **Onan**
By Cummins

(866) 477-2416
COLONIALGENERATORS.COM



AFTER



Home Trimwork

Making Your Home "A Model Home"

*You Deserve
The Best*



BEFORE

Limited time offer!
5% Discount
coupon for any
project.
18 Months 0%
financing available.

Crown Molding • Wainscot • Archways
Window Molding • Picture Frames
Raised Panels • Fireplace Mantels
Bookcases • Stairs • Iron Balusters
Wood Floors • Interior Painting
And More!

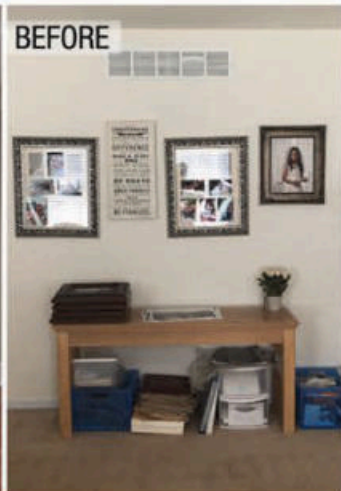
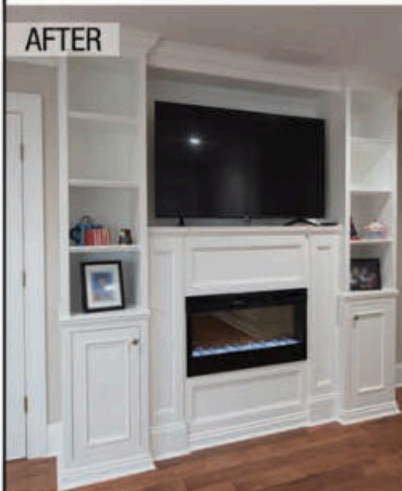
AFTER



BEFORE

AFTER

BEFORE



**FREE DESIGN
CONSULTATION!**



Home TrimworkTM

Making Your Home "A Model Home"

609.206.8621

www.hometrimwork.com

Financing Available.

No Interest For 18 Months!

#NJ:13VH05107600 PA: 003315 DE: 2006203461

ask the expert
by Liz Hunter

Rock Bottom Landscaping & Fencing

LATELY THERE IS ONE COMMON PIECE OF ADVICE THAT EVERYONE IN THE HOME IMPROVEMENT INDUSTRY KEEPS MENTIONING: DON'T WAIT.

Time is not on a homeowner's side if they want something done within reason, and the longer they wait to make calls for certain projects, the further away the completion date. Chris DeMato, owner of Rock Bottom Landscaping & Fencing, says, "We live in a very different environment than two years ago where materials are difficult to locate. We never know what may be around the corner in terms of price increases so if you are considering a project, I would recommend sooner rather than later."

As a landscape contractor, DeMato says spring cleanups are an important part of maintaining your investment. "Now that it's April, spring cleanups should be scheduled, maintenance plans should be underway and any other larger projects you're considering should be in motion."

DeMato spoke with *House & Home* about the differences between lawn services and full-service landscaping companies and why continuing education matters.



Chris DeMato,
owner

WHAT ARE THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN THE VARIOUS LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES OUT THERE?

There is a difference between a lawn-cutting service and a full-service landscaping company. A lawn-cutting company generally cuts grass all week and will fill their open time with a brick, planting or cleanup job in between their schedule. Most of the time they will start a project and have to come back the following week when they have an open day after their grass-cutting is through.

We are a full-service landscaping company, and most full-service companies will start a project and stay on that project until completion because they have separate, dedicated divisions. They are not sending that same crew out the following day to cut grass or start another job just to keep the customer happy.

WHAT MAKES ROCK BOTTOM EQUIPPED TO HANDLE ANY ASPECT OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE?

We believe in being over-equipped and over-staffed for the work that we contract. We also have different divisions, which means we have a staff that is doing a specific task every day. For example, we have a lawn division that takes care of the grass cutting,



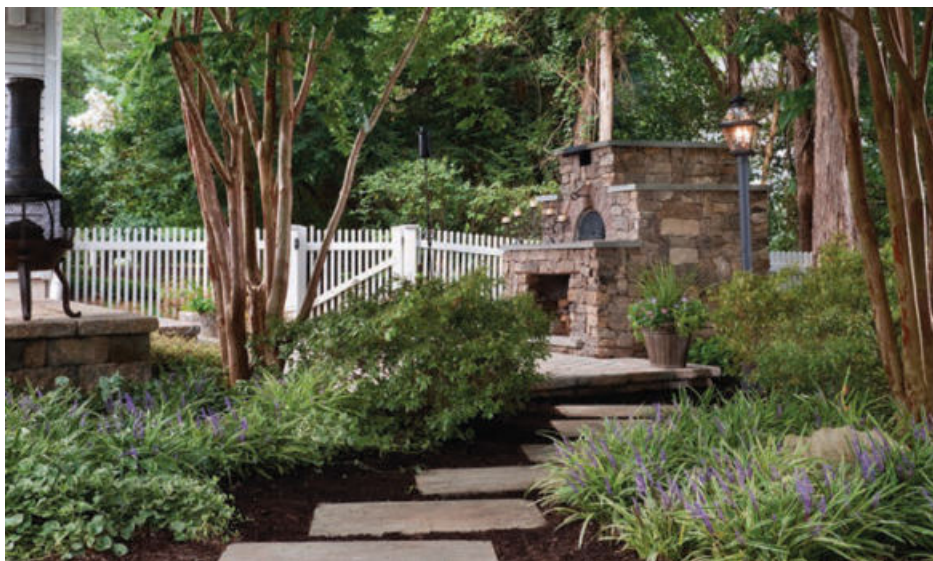
trimming, cleanup and general maintenance aspects of landscaping. We have a hardscaping division that will be doing brick, stone and cement work every day. We have a plant installation division handling planting and mulching daily, and we have a fence division. This ensures when you hire Rock Bottom Landscaping you are getting experience in whatever aspect of landscaping you need.

HOW DOES EMPLOYING THE SERVICES OF A LANDSCAPING COMPANY BENEFIT HOMEOWNERS?

With technology today most people will go online and Google and get as much information as they can and this is all great, however, there is nothing that compares to on-the-job experience. For example, picking the right plants for your property is very important particularly with the deer problem today. There are many lists of deer-resistant plants on the internet but these lists are not always accurate. How often have you spent that weekend busting your butt working in your yard and planting new flowers and shrubs only to find a week later they were all chewed down to the nubs? You have to know your geographic area.

IS CONTINUING EDUCATION IMPORTANT IN YOUR INDUSTRY?

Definitely. I started my business 32 years ago and I'm constantly learning about new products and installation processes that may go with them. We work hand-in-hand with the distributors and manufacturers of these products. Brick, fence and stone manufacturers will generally hold classes throughout the winter months to teach installation of their product. ... I think years of experience also play an important part. I am certainly better today at what I do than I was 10 years ago. **H&H**





ASK ABOUT OUR
**THIN TEC
 SYSTEM**
 FOR EASY INSTALL
 OF THIN BRICK

- GENUINE THIN BRICK
- FULL SIZE BRICK
- HANDMADE BRICK
- MANUFACTURED
STONE VENEER
- THIN NATURAL
STONE VENEER

BEFORE YOU PAINT OR WALLPAPER
 THAT WALL — CONSIDER THE
 POSSIBILITIES WITH ...

**GENUINE
 THIN BRICK**



AIA



**ACCREDITED
 BUSINESS**

Riverside Supply Company



VISA

Welcome masons, general contractors, architects, home builders, landscapers and homeowners.

CALL:
732-257-3434

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM:
 6 Washington Rd., Sayreville, NJ 08872

VISIT:
rsc-nj.com

Here to Please

As the founder and owner of a decking company that is well known throughout New Jersey for delivering sensational outdoor spaces on time and on budget, Ion Colbasiuc certainly understands what it's like to have his services in high demand. Work especially picks up in late spring and early summer, when the weather is getting warmer and homeowners are dreaming of adding a backyard oasis to their property.

Even at this time of the year, however, Colbasiuc will never find excuses to give a customer the cold shoulder. When he started Deck Guardian over a decade ago, his motivation was to not only provide the finest craftsmanship but also a positive, stress-free experience, and that remains his driving factor to this day.

"Service should be a lot better than what it is across the construction industry," he says. "People call in to get an estimate and they can't get ahold of anybody, they can't get anyone to come out for three weeks to even give them a quote, and once they get the quote it takes too long to get the contract in place."

"We try to make it a lot easier on them. If you call us we'll be there in a few days, we'll get you a price on the deck and if you want to build it, we'll build it as soon as possible. Some people have simple projects and some have more elaborate projects, but it should be as easy as walking in, buying something and having it at your house two months later rather than chasing someone around to answer the phone or give you a price."

That attention to detail is even more important in today's climate, where supply chain issues, rising material costs and difficulties to obtain permits are real challenges. Getting on the schedule early ensures that family dinners, summer barbecues and graduation parties can be enjoyed sooner rather than later.

From the very first meeting, Colbasiuc stresses transparency between his team and the homeowner. He frequently hears the same questions from prospective customers, starting with how much the deck will cost, and takes the time to carefully explain the many variables that will determine the price. Those include



Customer service has always been and remains the No. 1 priority for **Deck Guardian** as it creates beautiful outdoor spaces for homeowners to enjoy.

By **Matt Cosentino**

the location and whether the soil makes for easy or hard installation of the footings; the cost of building permits in a particular town; the proximity from the driveway to the backyard to transport materials and debris; and whether the deck is low to the ground or on the second story.

"There are multiple factors that come into play when we are pricing a project and it changes on a case-by-case basis," Colbasiuc says. "Most of the projects that we do are around 300-400 square feet and they're within the price range of \$20,000-\$25,000. But decks are going to last 25-30 years and if you're spending \$20,000 on a deck, you're getting at least \$15,000 in real estate value."

Customers expect the design process to be complicated, but Deck Guardian takes the approach of creating an outdoor space that is just like the homeowners' favorite rooms inside while accounting for important details like traffic flow and the best place for stairs. "Decks are primarily used for grilling, dining and lounging, so when we're putting together a project, we want to make sure that you have enough space for all three activities," he says.

A shade structure can make the deck usable

in extreme heat or rain, and a porch with outdoor heaters can extend the enjoyment into the colder months of the year. Colbasiuc is happy to add whatever amenities make sense for a customer's lifestyle and budget.

When it comes to the timeline for the deck's completion, fall, winter and early spring have the quickest turnarounds, while the summer tends to get extremely busy and will push the project back a bit. Different towns have different processes for granting permits but Deck Guardian has dedicated staff just for this task.

"Most of the decks we build average about a week for installation, so once we get started it will be done before you know it," Colbasiuc says. "But before you start it's a lot of hassles and paperwork, which we handle so the customer doesn't have to."

Nothing beats the feeling when the job is finished and the end result is a beautiful space ready for new memories to be created.

"When it's all done everybody is just thrilled with how much better it came out than they were expecting," he says. "They can look at a picture ahead of time but it's just a picture. When they actually get the space and see how nice it looks against the house, how much room they have and how good the installation is, they have a really good impression."

"It's a great experience for them because our service is really what makes the difference. As long as we stick with our core values, people will appreciate it. That's why we have the best reputation in the state and we're on target to build 700 decks this year." **H&H**

Deck Guardian

458 Elizabeth Ave. | Somerset, N.J.
(908) 332-8616 | DeckGuardian.com



The Big Potential

OF SMALL BATHROOMS

Hall bathrooms, guest baths and powder rooms might not have the space to accommodate all the flashy splashes of personality and luxury that a main bathroom can, but area experts have lots of advice for and insight into making the most of those less-used lavatories.

Everyone wants to turn their main bathroom into a lovingly detailed, spa-like escape featuring all the amenities and coordinated color palates that elevate the home's most in-use bathroom into an opulent retreat.

But what about powder rooms, hall bathrooms and guest baths?

While a home's smaller spaces might present some limitations their larger counterparts don't, there are still plenty of options for upgrading and refreshing your smaller or less frequently used bathrooms without sacrificing style, space or superior construction.

"I don't really consider them any dif-

ferently because, regardless of the size of the project or the location of the project, the detail and the quality should always be the same," says Anthony DellaPia, president of Floors Just for You. "Whether it is a powder room or a luxurious master bath, we treat them equally."

"Unless you're trying to redo all your sewer lines, it's really the same thing as working on a larger bathroom," agrees Santiago Lima of Lima's Handyman.

DellaPia and a few of the region's other bathroom redesign professionals recently spoke to *House & Home* about how they approach these projects and advice for homeowners looking to focus

by **Madeleine Maccar**

their attention on homes' smaller washrooms.

Same Quality, Different Mindset

It is crucial to approach those smaller projects with the same degree of care, attention to detail and desire to deliver a dazzling finished product for each and every client, though there are obvious limits and differences that come with redesigning a bathroom that isn't the main bath, the latter of which is used almost exclusively by the heads of a household.

"There is a different approach that's not necessarily based on size as it is the usage," notes Doug Mottershead of McHales Inc., a certified designer who's been with the company for 16 years. "Typically, it's a couple who's using the master bath, and not many other people are going into it; a hall bathroom is used by their children, whether they're small children or adult children; and the powder room is used by everyone, including guests."

"I've seen a lot of projects through the years and, in most cases, when people have hall bathrooms, they're primarily used for children or guests, and there's a big division between a personal bathroom that you use

for yourself and your significant other versus one that's used by the kids," agrees David Cerami, owner of HomeTech Renovations. "The mindset is, do you take your kids to a five-star restaurant? Most people are looking to do their hall baths a little more reasonably rather than making the major design statement they would with their master bath."

Contractors are quick to note that when homes are built, their half-baths tend to be designed with streamlined piping and architectural configurations in mind, rather than occupants' ease of use and design flourishes. Since those bathrooms are often basic, builder-grade quality, renovations can range from adding individually selected adornments that reflect a homeowner's taste to improving their overall quality of materials.

"Most builders, when they build a home, they're not building it for state-of-the-art design: They're building it for how quickly and inexpensively they can produce one bathroom, so changing out a bathroom usually means more of an upgrade than people realize," Cerami says. "When the homeowner moves in, they're enamored with their new home and not thinking about how their bathrooms were built, or understanding that the materials that were chosen are typically less than what you would want to select if you were to design it yourself or were advised about other alternatives than what you inherited with your home."

"It can be a challenge because you have to take time to re-pipe in for a new shower or a new tub or a new toilet, or move the toilet out of the way in order to get a nicer layout," adds Lima.

Making the Most of Small Spaces

Before a project can even begin, taking stock of the entire home to ensure a harmonious redesign is paramount.

"People will go on Pinterest or home-design websites and say, 'I want this style,' and it can be



Imagine.....

PRE-SEASON SPECIAL
680 sq ft Patio & Steps, only \$11,999!
 Call NOW for 2022 scheduling

We are the Tri-State's largest builder of decorative concrete systems, for over 25 years. Residential and Commercial + All Work Fully Warranted

BEST of HOUSE & HOME 2021

- Beautiful, versatile, and durable
- Long lasting with low maintenance
- Stamped, stained, colored, and more
- Industry experts in decorative concrete

Always hiring qualified and trainable installers!

1.866.956.2818

ARCHITECTURAL **ACD** CONCRETE
DESIGN®
 By Christopher McMahon Contracting, Inc.

ACDconcrete.com

PA Lic. #PA4722, NJ Lic. #13VHD1856500, DE Lic. #2002102708

very pretty, but, as a designer, you have to tell them why it doesn't go well with their home—you don't want a bathroom that overpowers the house," says Guy Ndandji, owner of F+S Kitchen and Bath Design. "You want a bathroom proportional to the look of you overall home."

The very nature of home remodeling projects makes each job as unique as the homeowners, their lifestyle, their tastes and the changes they're looking for.

"It all depends on the customer when it comes to things like hall bathrooms and master bathrooms," Mottershead points out. "There's two different approaches: Some customers want to put their money in the master bathroom they use every day. Others, since the master bathroom is only for them, they don't care about it as much, so they focus on the guest bathroom."

"You are a little limited with selections of fixtures just because you don't want to overpower a smaller area," DellaPia adds. "A lot of people are looking for more durability because they usually are the bathrooms for kids, and it's more of a simple design and basic finish than the exotic ones you'd see in a master."

For guest bathrooms and powder rooms,

those lesser-used spaces present an opportunity to showcase statements pieces that pop but might not be practical for everyday use.

"My advice to customers, when it's their master bathroom and a hall bath as well, is not to put a vessel sink in because it is a cleaning issue when you're using that bathroom every day before you go out and every night before you go to bed—they're hard to clean around," Mottershead explains. "The only place I'll ever put those in would be a powder room because, in a powder room, since everyone sees that, you're kind of trying to put your best foot forward, from a classy-design approach."

With storage at a premium, there are plenty of ways to creatively maximize small bathrooms' space without compromising their aesthetics. Vanities are still in-demand and options like recessed niches offer unobtrusive storage spaces, too, though shelving remains a popular, easy choice.

"You can only put one pound of sugar in a one-pound bag, so what we need to do is take advantage of the existing space," says Cerami. "We can give them more storage space with recessed medicine cabinets, an upgraded vanity that would offer a little bit more convenience in terms of storage, or a toilet-topper sort of cabinet—or we can build something custom in our shop, if necessary."



"If you go from a tub to a standup shower, you can gain way more space in your bathroom because the shower base is smaller, reducing almost two feet of space that a tub would need," adds Lima. "That way you can add some shelves in that space you get back right next to the shower for things like towels and storage."

If more square footage is what a homeowner is looking for, eliminating in-bathroom closets is an increasingly common solution.

"If there's a way to make a bathroom bigger, people always want to make it bigger," Lima continues. "If they want to have a linen closet in the bathroom, they'll get rid of that closet, which is what we normally do."

Custom Glass Shower Enclosures Home Gym and Dance Mirrors

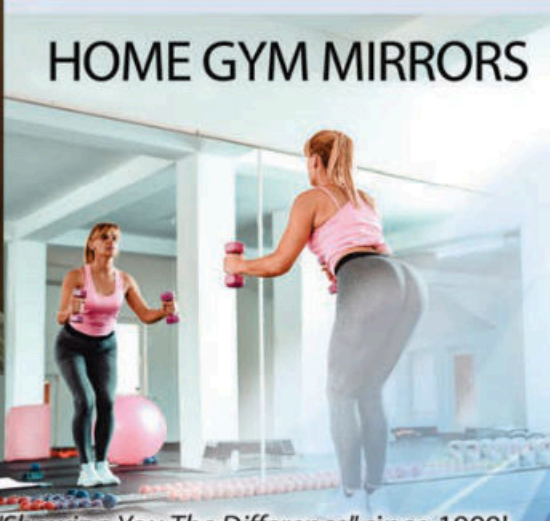


We Stand Behind Our Work

Update Your Shower Enclosures



- Residential Glass Home
- Frameless Showers
- Shower Doors
- Custom Mirrors
- Table Tops
- Glass Partitions



HOME GYM MIRRORS

GLASS Tech INC.

GLASSTECHNJ.COM

908-617-0097 Dial Ext. 213



"Showing You The Difference" since 1999!
Fast and Free Quotes!
Over 30 Years of Experience!



Since these types of bathrooms rely more on interior lighting than natural sunlight, choosing those fixtures is an important decision. Sconces can provide an upgrade that not only add some character to a small bathroom but also create more natural light for shaving and makeup application, while opting for overhead ceiling lights rather than above-vanity ones can brighten up those spaces, too.

"We'll go in and see a very basic light over a vanity, or we won't see lighting over the showering or tub area, so we'll upgrade those designs," Cerami says. "We frequently include additional moisture-resistant recessed lighting over bathing areas as well."

Trust the Professionals

Every project starts with a client who's eager for a change, but it's best that they're placed in professional hands. It might cost more to bring in the experts but it's a small price to pay for not only avoiding even costlier mistakes but also ensuring that you don't wind up with a project you've thrown a significant amount of money at and ultimately regret.

"The kitchen is the most expensive project within a home, followed by the bathroom," says Ndandji. "You have to make sure that you hire a true professional because a fly-by-night contractor who's not skilled enough will be a problem. People who have been in the industry for a long time have the experience to bring a quality design to any kind of client."

Checking out contractors' showrooms for a hands-on comparison of options is one of the many benefits of trusting the professionals, while marrying their expertise with your taste to get a result that you love and will last is another.

"The customer can't necessarily relay to me exactly what it is that they have in their head, so it's up to me to ask the appropriate questions to draw out that information," Mottershead adds. "The best designer for your bathroom is you, not me. I'm the tool you use to get what you want but you are the person who has to live with it every day." **H&H**



RESOURCES

F+S Kitchen and Bath Design Studio

Voorhees, N.J. | (856) 428-3800
FSKitchenAndBath.com

Floors Just for You

Turnersville, N.J. | (856) 432-6269
FloorsJustForYou.com

HomeTech Renovations

Lower Gwynedd, Pa. | (215) 646-7477
HTRenovations.com

Lima's Handyman LLC

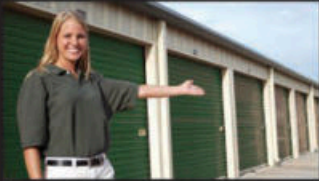
(610) 605-7015
SantiagoLima70@gmail.com

McHales, Inc.

Levittown, Pa. | (215) 488-7306
McHales.net

VINYL SWINGSETS * WOOD SWINGSETS * BIG GREEN EGGS

SELF STORAGE * CONTAINERS ON WHEELS * U-HAULS * FAMILY OWNED






WOOD SHEDS * VINYL SHEDS * OUTDOOR FURNITURE



**1536 Lower Ferry Road
Ewing, NJ 08618
609-771-0274
www.TheBuxtonComplex.com**









BUXTON'S QUALITY FURNITURE * BEDROOM * DINING * DECKS * MORE

WE'RE HIRING INSTALLERS



Signature Flake Floors



**NO STRESS,
NO MESS!**

32-649-1585

www.garagekings.com



SPRING FORWARD SALE

\$300 OFF*

Any Garage

*\$150 OFF - valid on floors installed prior to June 30, 2022.
Not applicable to all locations throughout USA & Canada.

GET YOUR **FREE** QUOTE:

(732) 649-1585

GarageKings.com

H&H

Spring SHOWCASE

SWIM-MOR POOLS & SPAS

Mount Ephraim | (856) 456-3332
 Northfield | (609) 645-7171
 Millstone Twp. | (732) 446-2211
SwimMor.com

NEW POOLS

Put some tropical escape back into your suburban sprawl. This perfect oasis is no mirage but the ideal transformation of your yard to the spot where everyone gathers to enjoy.



Swim-Mor Pools & Spas

is a family-owned and -operated business started in 1967 that proudly carries on a tradition of quality in our products. We have an experienced staff that utilizes some of the latest technology to bring to you. Visit or contact one of our three convenient locations for a consultation about building your ideal pool.



Renovations

Give your old pool a new look with the latest features, functions and materials. Add the hydrotherapy spa that you always wanted or simply replace the worn plaster, tile and coping, a full range of options is available.



STYLISH

Stun your neighbors and attain a level of sophistication that you have always dreamed of. Your yard is now ready for everything from cocktail parties to barbecues and birthdays.



Flooring it

From hardwood to luxury vinyl and more, homeowners have plenty of flooring options to fit their needs and budget.

by **Matt Cosentino**

When most people dream about renovating their homes, their minds automatically drift to the exciting aspects of the project, whether it's the cabinetry and countertops in a kitchen, the vanity and enlarged shower in a master bathroom or the bold new paint colors in a living room. One piece of the remodel that might get overlooked at first—but is of critical importance, no matter what the space—is the type of flooring to choose.

Flooring options have advanced dramatically over the years, and a wide variety of selections are now available to fit varying budgets and lifestyles. An update to one room or an entire level of a home can make a world of difference, even on its own without an accompanying renovation.



“People are definitely home more [since the pandemic started in 2020] and it's been very busy with projects,” says Julie Ward, showroom manager and design consultant at Renaissance Ceramic Tile & Floor. “Updating the flooring, whether it's the whole floor or just a

bathroom floor, brings your house back to life. With many different flooring options and colors it has a big impact.”

House & Home spoke to local experts to learn more about the different options and the pros and cons to each.

Finding the best fit

To help customers determine the type of flooring that will best suit their needs, industry professionals first try to find out as much about their lifestyle as possible.

"The first question we ask is how active is their household? Do they have children or pets? Do they entertain a lot?" says John Schwendiman, flooring general manager at Bucks County Wholesale. "Once we get those answers, then we can steer them in the right direction."

Yasu Yamauchi, owner of Yasu Floors LLC, offers several different types of flooring and will make recommendations based on his experience.

"It depends on the situation in the house," he says. "Last week we did a house where I proposed vinyl because the [homeowner] had a pool and he comes into the house wet. When water comes into play, hardwood is not a good option. It all depends on the client. I try to see what the client likes and sell them whatever they want."

Dennis Gehman, president of Gehman Design Remodeling, first asks if the flooring is for one particular space or multiple rooms. Before making his suggestions, he also needs to understand the budget the homeowner is working with.

"Most people would love to do real hardwood everywhere and/or real tile," he says, "but that can be crazy expensive."

Options upon options

As Gehman notes, hardwood is still a popular choice for those who can afford it. Yamauchi is often tasked with reviving hardwood floors, perhaps if a customer has purchased an older home where the original flooring had faded.

"A lot of people are looking for sanding and refinishing their floors," he says. "This week I already did a 60-year-old hardwood that was under carpet and we brought it back to life. But sometimes it can just be two or three years old and the client

doesn't like the color anymore and wants to change it."

In homes where young children and pets are present, however, hardwood might not be the best selection, regardless of price. Those clients need something that is easier to clean and maintain.

"A strong material these days is luxury vinyl, whether that's luxury vinyl plank, which looks like a wood board, or luxury vinyl tile, which obviously looks like tile," Gehman says. "That will be a fraction of the cost of real hardwood or real tile and the durability is definitely there for general wear and tear as well as with animals."

"A lot of people now are going with the luxury vinyl products just because they're cleanable, water-resistant and scratch-resistant," Schwendiman agrees. "For families with pets and kids and active lives, it holds up a lot better than the hardwood. With hardwood, you get a better return on your investment than vinyl, but it's not as durable as the vinyl."

Manufacturers continue to take the luxury vinyl planks to a new level, mimicking the look of wood without the hassles. Even the pros sometimes have a hard time noting the difference between vinyl and real hardwood.

"The image that they're printing on these tiles is incredible," Ward says. "Every time something new comes in, it almost feels like wood grain or like you could get a splinter from it even. It's hard to tell what's real and what's fake anymore."

Yamauchi opines that laminate flooring resembles real hardwood even more than vinyl, although there are drawbacks.

"The vinyl is waterproof on top, waterproof at the bottom, it is slip-proof and it doesn't scratch," he says. "If you drop water on top, it just stays there and doesn't go under, so you can just wipe it off. Laminate consists of recyclable wood pretty much, so it absorbs water. Water goes in and the laminate expands. I

DON'T REPLACE IT...RAISE IT! How you can save your sinking concrete slab and WHY...



- **COST EFFECTIVE:** Concrete raising is typically about half the cost of replacing the same concrete.
- **TIME:** Ready to use immediately! No more waiting for removal of the old slab, framing of the new slab, and then more waiting for the concrete to set.
- **CLEAN WORK ENVIRONMENT:** No concrete or grout splatter and no wash down needed.

THE MUDJACKING GUY

Servicing: **New Jersey | Eastern PA | Delaware**

856.767.2269

13VH03146500

Visit our website for complete details:

www.themudjackingguy.com



**RAISING CONCRETE FOR 17 YEARS.
SEE THE DIFFERENCE EXPERIENCE MAKES!**

don't do a lot of laminate, unless the client is going to take care of it and really likes the way it looks. It looks way more like wood than vinyl, but when it comes to water it's not good."

Schwendiman believes that laminate manufacturers are addressing the water issues recently, and it does have the advantage of being much more affordable than vinyl.

Ward's company sells a lot of porcelain tile as well, which is also a strong option for cleaning purposes. Natural stone requires more maintenance but is popular for kitchens or master baths.

Carpet is still used, mainly in bedrooms, offices or a finished basement, but Schwendiman says homeowners with allergies are getting away from it since it traps dust and hard surfaces are easier to clean. Gehman also points out that carpet can be a tripping hazard for seniors.

"For aging in place or ADA compliance,



“For aging in place or ADA compliance, smooth, hard flooring is the best.”

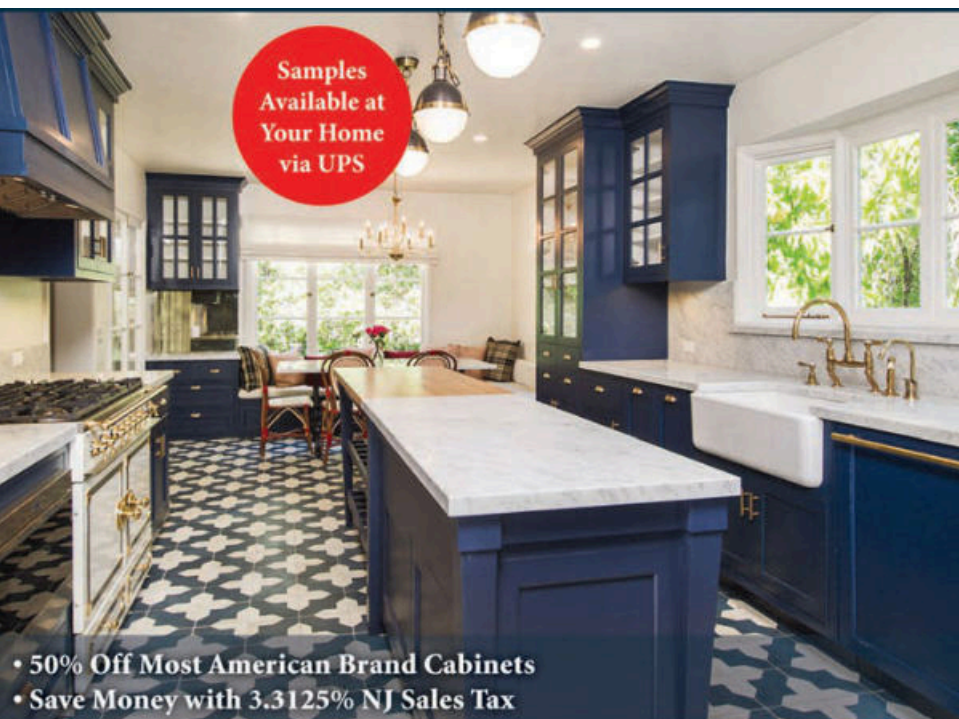
—DENNIS GEHMAN, PRESIDENT OF GEHMAN DESIGN REMODELING

We offer an extensive selection of
Kitchen Cabinetry
Counter Surfaces
Bath Cabinetry

Our Showroom is Open!
OR Shop at Home with
Live Assistance from
Our Experienced Designers
5,000 SQ. FT. SHOWROOM



We Do
Baths
Too!



- 50% Off Most American Brand Cabinets
- Save Money with 3.3125% NJ Sales Tax

Sterl Kitchens Co. Inc.
Family Owned & Operated Since 1945
77 Years of Savings, Selection & Service

5426 Tonnelle Ave (US 1 & 9 N), North Bergen, NJ
201-866-7999 | www.SterlKitchens.com
Mon–Wed, Fri: 9am–5pm | Thurs: 9am–8pm | Sat: 9am–3pm

smooth, hard flooring is the best,” he says. “People talk about slipperiness and that’s a consideration, but by code and actually by law, flooring materials need to meet a certain slip resistance qualification before they can go out to market. The most common [falls] are in a bathroom where it’s a little wet or just inside a door where you’re coming in from outside. There are some that are better than others but all must meet a minimum qualification.”

Trends and popular colors

One major theme in recent years is to keep the same flooring throughout an entire level of the home, rather than, for example, using carpet in the living room, hardwood in the kitchen and tile in the bathroom.

“People don’t want to break up the rooms, they want that open feel,” Schwendiman says. “So they’ll continue the flooring throughout the whole first floor or second floor instead of breaking it up. Some people still opt to put ceramic in the wet areas like kitchens, bathrooms and laundry rooms in case there is a leak. But the luxury vinyl can withstand all of that wetness.”

“Consistency is a big thing with a house,” Ward adds. “If you can run your floors all the same, it’s going to make it feel bigger and more consistent versus having all these different floors throughout the home.”

As for color, Ward says neutrals are always a big request, such as whites, grays and taupe. Gehman sees the wood tones coming on strong, but the trends always seem to change quickly.

“Gray is still in high demand with beige coming in second,” Schwendiman says. “In the hardwood arena, it’s the white oak natural or real light colors and wide planks. Next year it will probably be dark again. Very few manufacturers have actual colors like blue or red or green, they’re all one form or another of gray or beige.”

No matter what colors or styles customers think they want, Schwendiman advises them to visit a showroom and get a feel for the options in person as opposed to on a website. He has been in the business for 30 years now and even he is constantly amazed at what is out there.

“It was all carpet and hardwood when I started,” he says. “Sheet vinyl was on its way out when I started, then laminate came into play, and now luxury vinyl has taken over a big chunk of the market share. But laminate and carpet are making their way back. You have to keep the ratio of what people want in the store. People don’t use sheet vinyl anymore, so we only have one display of that compared to 15 or 20 displays of luxury vinyl. People should definitely come in and see the samples.” **H&H**



RESOURCES

Bucks County Wholesale

Langhorne, Pa. (267) 358-5247
BucksCountyWholesale.com

Gehman Design Remodeling

Harleysville, Pa.
(215) 513-0300
GehmanRemodeling.com

Renaissance Ceramic Tile & Floor

Horsham, Pa.
(215) 674-4848
CeramicTileAndMarble.com

Yasu Floors LLC

Kearny, N.J.
(862) 371-2200
YasuFloorsLLC.com

TRANSYLVANIA
CONCRETE COATINGS

RELAX
WE'VE GOT YOUR POOL DECK COVERED.

CALL TODAY FOR A COMPLIMENTARY IN-HOME CONSULTATION
HOUSEANDHOME.ONEDAYFLOORS.COM 856-212-1109

Fox Windows

Modern to Traditional Style
High Energy Efficiency
Top of the Line Quality

Windows
Patio Doors
Front Doors

Garage Doors
Shutters &
Blinds



50% off Installation

Terms and Conditions:
Only valid for customers who
purchase a minimum of \$10,000
in DAKO products and have
them installed by Fox General
Construction. With incoming
order, at time of purchase only.



DAKO

Call for a **FREE**
consultation and estimate

732-617-6160 • Fox-windows.com



FOX WINDOWS

*Stop by our
showroom:*

520 Route 9, Suite #17
Manalapan, NJ 07726



SPRING SPECIAL
\$500 OFF
ANY RE-ROOF OVER \$10,000

ANY RE-ROOF OVER **\$10,000**
NOT TO BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. ONE PER CUSTOMER.



WHY CHOOSE US

At Expert Roofing, our contractors have been helping homeowners and business owners create beautiful establishments for over 20 years. We are a family-owned and operated business specializing in roofing in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Our skilled, professional team provides high-quality, specialized services performed by GAF Master Elite® Roofing Contractors.



WE DO IT ALL

- New Roofs
- Flat Roofs
- Asphalt Shingle Roofing
- Structural Repair
- Tear Off and Roof Replacement
- Commercial Roofing



FREE QUOTE: 833-329-0912

ExpertRoofingCompany.com | ExpertRoofing15@gmail.com

NJ License#: 13VH11402500 | PA License#: PA163248

Our Largest Sale!
Lowest Prices!
Largest Selection of the Season!

LARGEST SELECTION OF PATIO FURNITURE

AREA'S LARGEST SUPPLIER OF DECKING & RAILING

Genuine
Trex

- Patio Furniture
- Outdoor Kitchens
- Grills and Firepits
- Decking and Railing
- Hardscaping
- Windows and Doors

SEQUOIA
OUT BACK
Experience the Ultimate in Outdoor Living Space™

Find us on
Facebook

www.decksupplies.com

TimberTech
Less Work. More Life.

2420 Bethlehem Pike
(Rt. 309) Hatfield

215-368-(RAIL) 7245

**The Most Spectacular
Outdoor Living Showroom!**



ZURI AZEK
Building Products

925 Easton Rd.
(Rt. 611) Warrington

215-918-DECK (3325)

Deck & Railing Showroom Only

WOLF

\$200 off
every \$1,000 in
furniture purchases

expires 5/15/2022

In-Stock Merchandise Only.