

# HOUSE & HOME

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Volume 19, Issue 8

## Set in Stone

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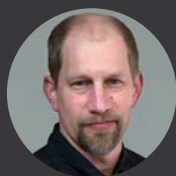
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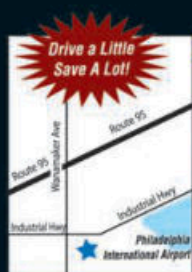
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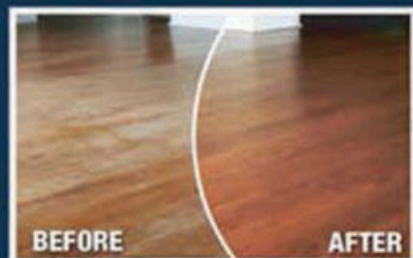
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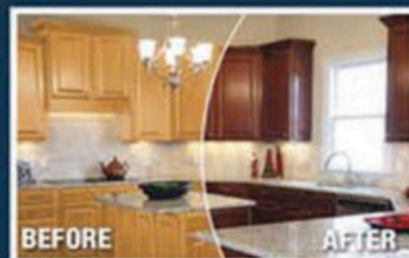
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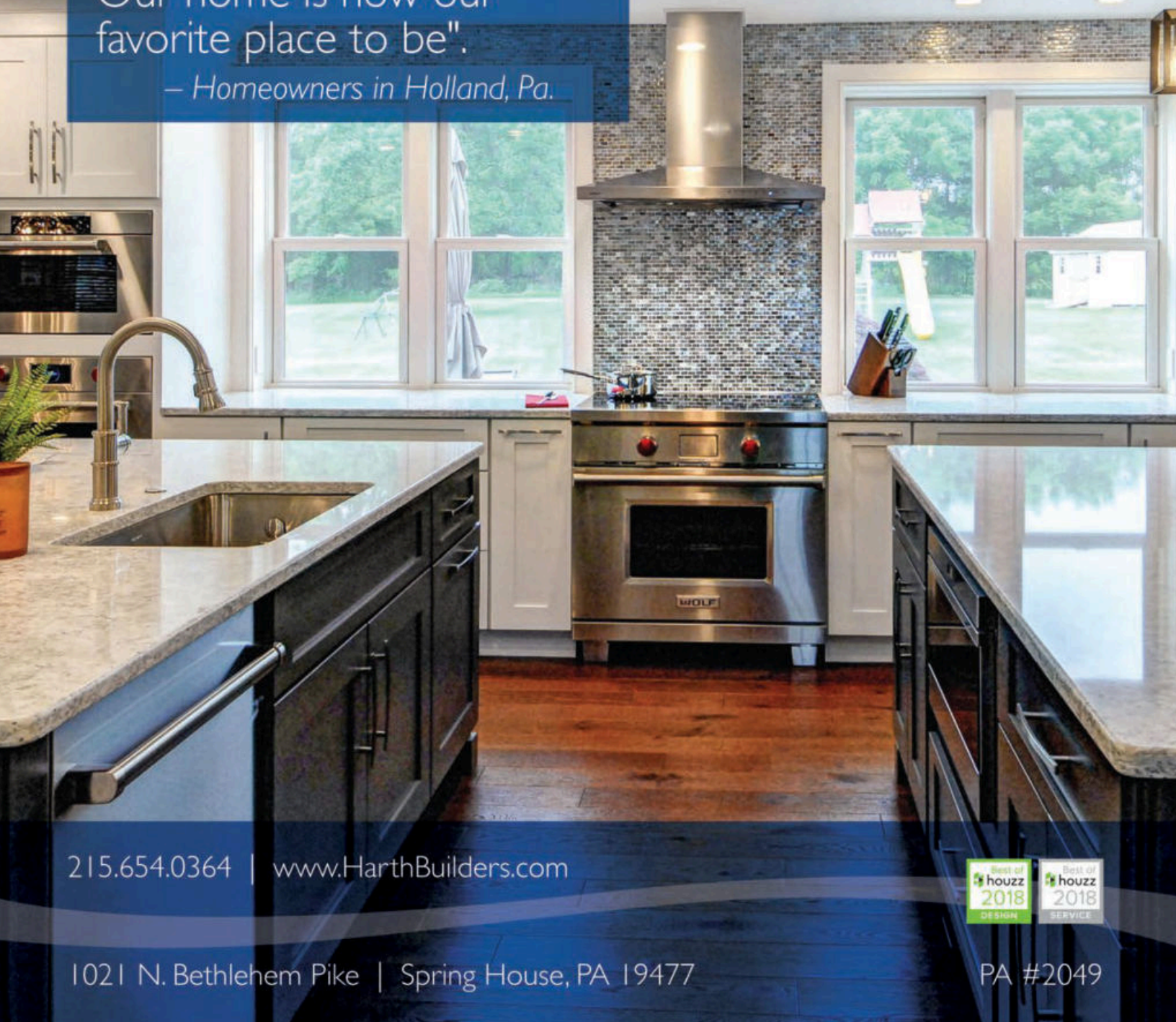
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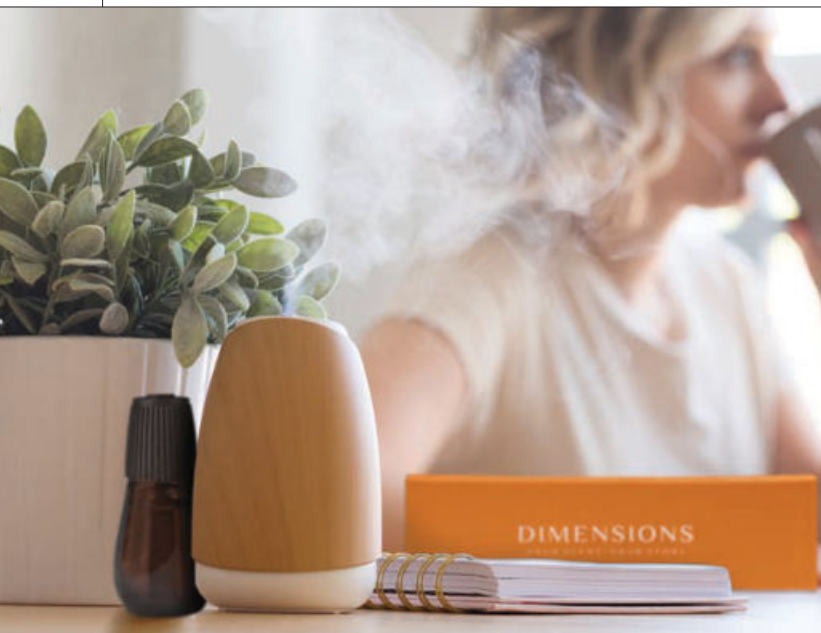
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# the foundation

Edited by Liz Hunter

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Additional information and catalogue available at [THG-Paris.com](http://THG-Paris.com).



**How to keep  
comfort and safety  
in mind as you  
remodel the  
home you love.**

# Stay Awhile

**B**aby boomers remain one of the most interesting segments of the country's population. History has watched them grow up, and as more of them age into their senior years, they are increasingly making their living preferences known. Studies show a majority plan to stay in their current home, as opposed to move to a retirement or assisted living community, and many plan to make improvements on their home. Remodeling industry professionals have embraced this

trend of upgrading kitchens and bathrooms with a balance of luxury and safety in mind.

Often referred to as “aging in place,” this trend empowers those who want to stay in their home but may need modifications to make it more suitable. This may mean moving a master bedroom to the first floor or installing safety features in a bathroom. We spoke with some of the region's prominent remodelers about renovating for this segment and how aging in place can still be done with style.

**BY DANIEL SEAN KAYE**



Top right images courtesy of Dilworth's Custom Design



**Often referred to as “aging in place,” this trend empowers those who want to stay in their home but may need modifications to make it more suitable.**



# Stay Awhile

## First steps

Assessing the safety and security of a home is a priority, says Christopher Fontana, owner of Magnolia Home Remodeling Group. “We have to look at everything, including the electrical, plumbing and heating. Older houses often don’t have what they need to help people stay there so a lot needs to be updated,” he says.

“When you’re considering aging in place renovations, the existing home has to be assessed for what can and cannot be done within budget,” says Doug Mottershead, CKD, kitchen and bath designer for McHales. “I have to look at all kinds of solutions. Can I build a soffit to hide things? Can I lower the ceiling or raise the floor to make access easier? These are important questions.”

Sophia M. Amiano, design assistant at Amiano & Son Design-Build says hearing the client’s thoughts is what truly determines the direction of the project. “Do they want to use the stairs as frequently? Do they want a more functional kitchen and bathroom? Questions like these are dire when renovating a forever home,” she says. This information guides choices on budget, materials and planning.

“When people can move into new homes where they can have everything they want, it can be rare to have homeowners who want to convert a 60-year-old house,” says David Cerami, CKBR, president of HomeTech Renovations. “When they do, there’s a lot to think about, especially accessibility to everything.” He mentions ramps, doorway widths, ADA compliance, getting to and from the house, aisle width, etc. “A renovation is a substantial investment that could cost \$60,000 to \$70,000. You have to ask yourself, ‘Can we do this? Do we want to?’ It really comes down to your quality of life.”

The homeowners might not even need health-specific renova-

tions yet they don’t want to downsize. “We’re finding a lot of people are getting the work done not because they are having medical issues, but because they want to make their homes more comfortable,” says Stephen Turbyfill, president of Freedom General Contracting. “This might be the house they’ve lived in for decades, but they never had time to renovate. They’ve paid off the mortgage, the kids have left and they just don’t want to move. This is their chance to get 10 to 15 more years out of their house.”

## Features to consider

Like any remodeling project, changes come in many degrees, from full-scale demolition/design/build, to minor updating that doesn’t necessarily disrupt homeowners’ daily life.

“Remote control lighting, keeping areas accessible and free of clutter and trip hazards are low-cost, common-sense ideas that can be beneficial to everyone,” says Dave Dilworth, director, sales and design of Dilworth’s Custom Design.

For other renovations, making the space accessible is key, says Cerami. “You need to consider walkers and wheelchairs, wider doorways, easy thresholds and transitions. Can the person easily manipulate a walker in the room? Is there enough space to turn around? Is the room easy to use assisted or unassisted? You might need to rip everything out of a space and reconfigure the room to make it function the best.”

With this in mind, an open floorplan often works best. “In all parts of the home, clients are asking us for open-concept layouts. They’re easier to get around, especially if the client uses a wheelchair or walker,” says Amiano.

“Bathrooms and kitchens are not usually set up for anything other than what an able-bodied person needs, so you have to approach things differently. Someone who is blind will need things that someone who uses a wheelchair doesn’t. There are different requirements,” says Mottershead. “People with visual impairment



**Homeowners don’t need to sacrifice their taste. “There’s a lot that can be done that is still very attractive.”**

—Christopher Fontana, owner of Magnolia Home Remodeling Group

can’t have white cabinets and white countertops. Having brighter, cleaner light and maybe white cabinets with a dark countertop helps with depth perception. People in a wheelchair will need a 9-inch high toe-kick for their kitchen cabinets instead of the usual 4-inch high one. They also need shallow-out sinks so they can fit their chair in and are able to get things out,” he says. “Also, no one likes to have to reach into the back of a cabinet, so we install roll-out trays in almost every one. It’s about making everything inside accessible.”

The kitchen now has many features that make life easier for homeowners, says Dilworth. The farmhouse sink and wall ovens

don’t require as much bending over, pull-out drawers give easier access and corner cabinets can be designed to allow use of the entire space without reaching far back. “Soft-close doors and drawers can be modified as to the amount of force required to open them. Kitchens can be modified to have larger doorways if needed for wheelchair access,” he says.

For those homeowners who are looking to aging issues, they might put an addition on the first floor to have a bedroom space available in the future and reduce the needs for stairs, says Turbyfill. Another popular option is to convert the garage into a living space, allowing older people more convenience without them worrying

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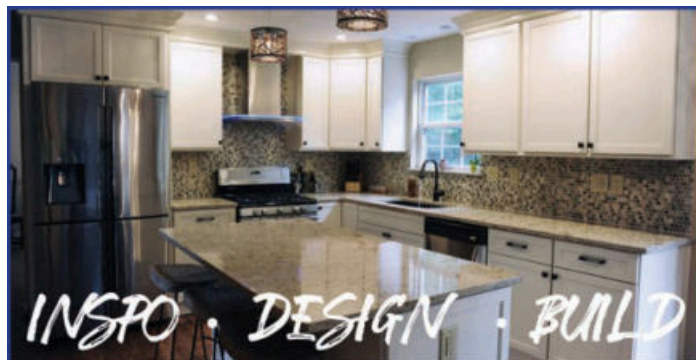
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# Stay Awhile

about going up and down steps, says Amiano.

Once the first floor of the home is remodeled, homeowners may want to consider specific changes in their bathroom, like replacing a large whirlpool tub with a freestanding soaking tub, and making the spaces cleaner and more simplistic. “But we’re seeing that no matter the choices, everything is style attractive and style-driven,” Turbyfill says.

Homeowners don’t need to sacrifice their taste. “There’s a lot that can be done that is still very attractive,” says Fontana. “We had one house a son wanted fixed-up for his mom. The grab bars and towel bars were very tasteful and aesthetically looked really nice. It’s not like a hospital.”

“In bathrooms, many changes are good to have no matter who uses the space. Horizontal grab bars and small vertical ones are good ideas. Maybe even having a seat in the shower,” Mottershead says. In addition to the standard hot and cold valves, he suggests a secondary one so you have more control, and installing a diverter so you can shower when seated, [using] the main one to rinse.

“We’re getting more requests for low-curb or no-curb showers, because they’re much easier to navigate for older people,” says Fontana. They also install lower controls and showerheads on hoses, as well as a main floor drain and no-slip materials on the floor.

Bathroom doorways are often too tight for wheelchairs so a 36-inch door gives plenty of room, says Amiano. A curbless shower helps clients who find it difficult to lift their legs over the pans.

“Vanities can be made taller for less bending over and can be multilevel to accommodate a wheelchair,” says Dilworth. “Radiant floor heating can eliminate the need for throw rugs in

the bathroom, a trip hazard as we age. If it’s taking longer to get in and out of the tub or shower, a heat lamp may be a welcome addition.” Other features to think about include touchless and anti-scald faucets with lever handles, and improved task and under-cabinet lighting. “Bathrooms should always have a nightlight and the shower area should be properly lit.”

One option Cerami floats is the idea of building or creating an in-law suite, with a brand-new layout specifically built for the older person. “Maybe they don’t need or want a full kitchen. Perhaps a smaller kitchenette is best. The space functions as a mini-apartment, so the senior can keep their independence.”

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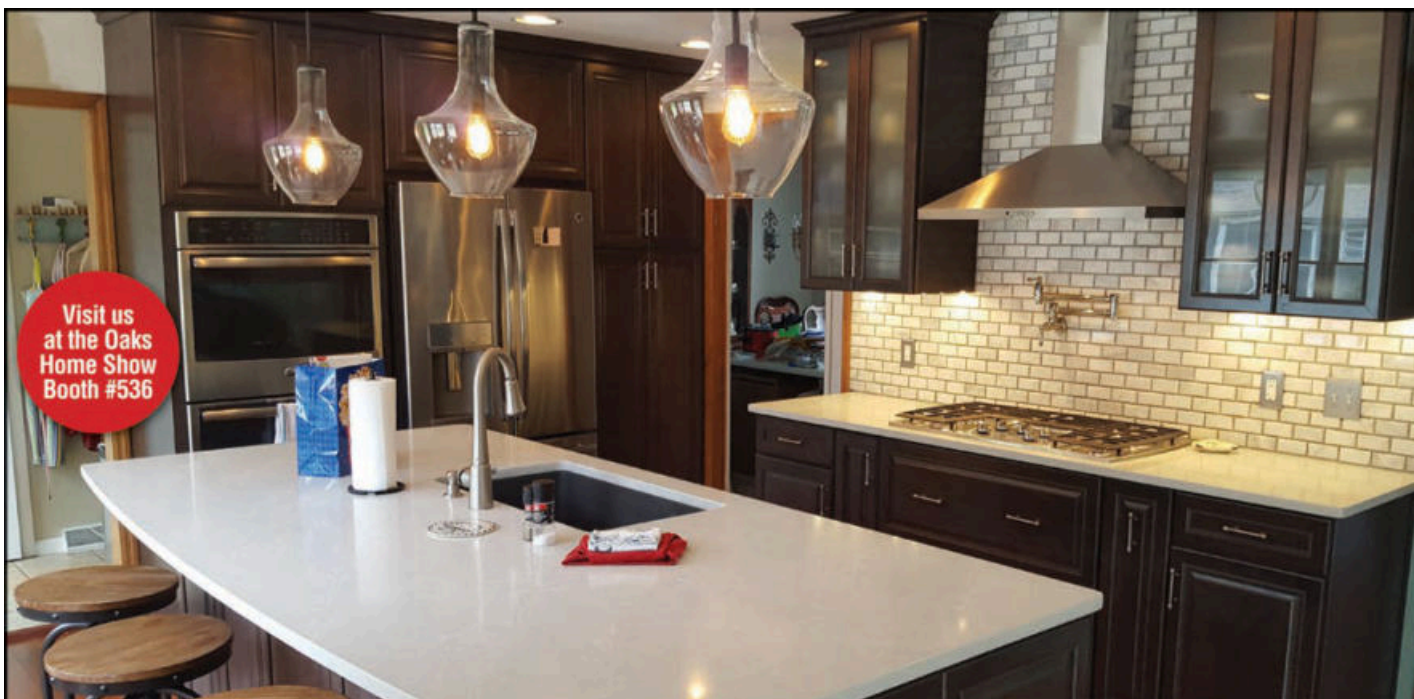
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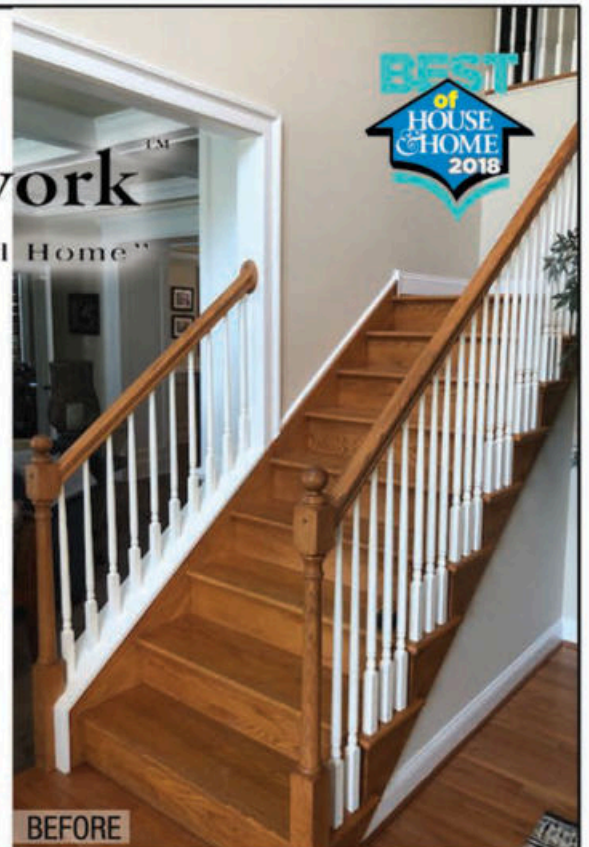
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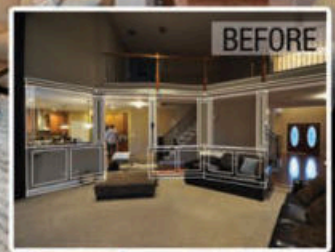
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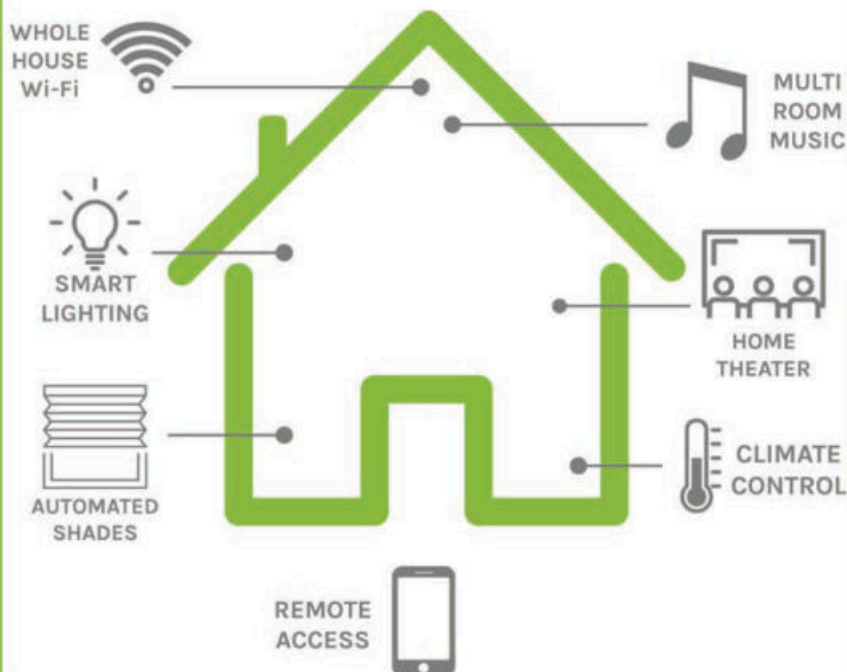


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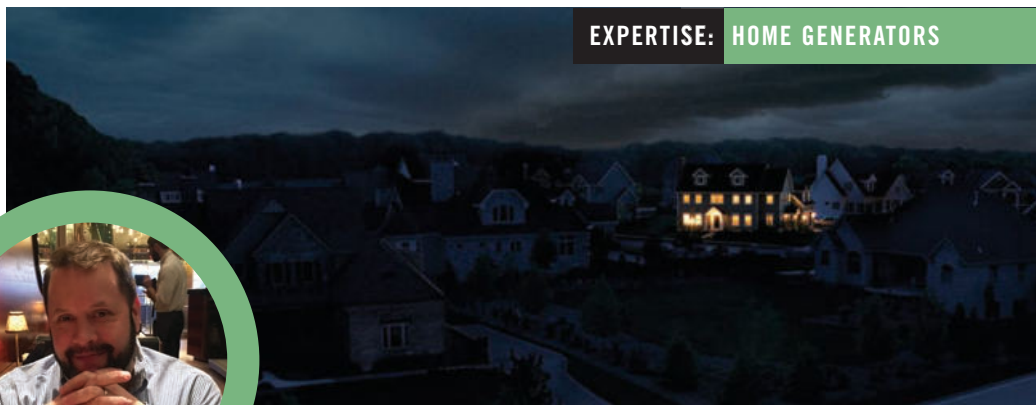
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# Colonial Generators

by Kaytlyn Mroz

**L**osing power in your home can be scary; especially when you have a family. As Mother Nature produces more frequent storms, power lines fall due to high winds and electrical grids grow older year after year; you don't want your family to be without power.

Insert: Colonial Generators. Selling generators across our region—and the U.S.—Colonial Generators has installed thousands of standby generators while simultaneously making the process easy and affordable for homeowners. *House & Home* spoke with Chief Operating Officer James Freeman about what homeowners can expect from their generators, the different brands, the installation process and why choosing Colonial Generators means you will never lose power again.

## How will a generator work when a homeowner loses power?

When a homeowner loses power, they have what is called an automatic transfer switch. That switch is set to automatically switch over to the standby generator when a power source is lost. It is seconds between the power going off and it kicking back on. It's almost like your lights go off with a surge and then back on like magic.

## What options does a homeowner have when choosing a generator that is right for them?

Ultimately there are four major brands that

are out there. Generac is the one that has the most equity in the market from a branding perspective. They've done a great job putting their name out there via their own marketing strategies, as well as being connected with national partners. There's also Kohler and Briggs & Stratton which are common names, and then there is Cummins. Cummins has the best engines and is the best machine, but they do not have the brand awareness. Between those four major brands, you can really cover any type of solution that a customer needs.

The size is based upon the homeowner's actual needs. We have made a decision as a business that we come out and present a whole-home solution. This is a solution that—if their power is lost—homeowners don't have to decide which appliances they want running, they can have their entire home running. You can either have a whole-home solution or a load-shedding solution where we make decisions on what they want to have running at that moment of power loss. In a load-shedding scenario, we have the ability to program the machine to feed energy to the areas that will be powered by generator.

## What is the installation process like?

After a customer decides that they want to move forward with Colonial Generators and place an order for a standby generator, we have to go through the permitting and licensing process to make sure that they have all of the necessary approvals (this can take 30-45 days). Once we get to the point of installation, we've already done an assessment of the site prior to obtaining permits to determine where we are going to put the unit, where we are going to run any electrical gas wiring and even if there is a propane tank involved, how we are going to make the connection to that. Ultimately, it is typically a one-

day installation for a residential home.

## With the purchase of a generator, what else will a homeowner receive?

We come in and we give them a one-stop price as opposed to purchasing the generator by itself and then additionally purchasing necessary add-ons. We line it up with what that rate could be if they wanted to finance it. When they purchase with us, they get the actual generator unit, the automatic transfer switch, 24/7 monitoring, a five-year warranty, the concrete pad the generator sits on, 25 feet of electric, batteries and our labor. All of those are inclusions in our package price.

## Why should a homeowner choose Colonial Generators over another company?

There are businesses out there that are doing a variety of electrical services. They are not actively in the market selling generators exclusively. The problems you run into a lot of times are when people don't have a natural sales inclination, they sell with their own pockets instead of the customers and they sell down into load-shedding scenarios. Then when a customer loses power they are not covered throughout their whole home.

We as a business focus solely on generators. We sell generators, we install generators and we provide service to our customers on the generators that we have installed. In turn, we are hyper-focused on one part of the business and we are experts at it.

## Are generators expensive?

I want it to be known to people that generators are an affordable option. We offer whole-home solutions for as low as \$99 a month on our financing plans. In that situation, we have a lot of really nice options that we can provide for homeowners who are looking for an affordable price point. **H&H**

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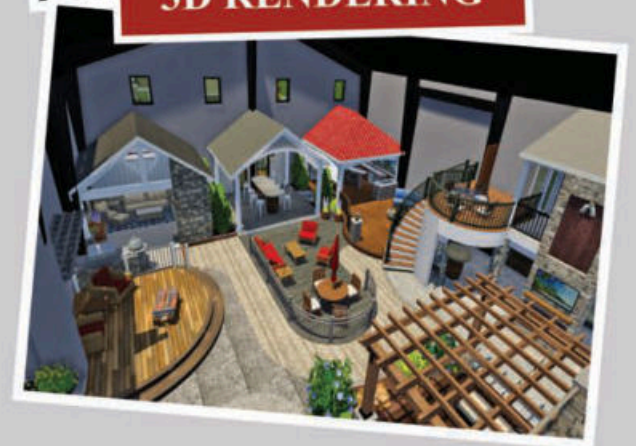
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# Ready to Rock



For masonry and outdoor-living projects of any scope, **Nyce Crete and Landis Block & Concrete** offers materials, design options and expertise of the highest quality. *by Bill Donahue*

**Few home improvements have the potential to make a more dramatic and more visible statement than a well-constructed patio, outdoor kitchen or some other iteration of an outdoor living area.**

At Nyce Crete and Landis Block & Concrete in Souderton, homeowners and professional contractors will discover only the highest-quality materials, as well as expert advice, needed to create an enduring feature that adds beauty, usefulness, and sophistication to any home.

“Homeowners come to us for everything and anything that has to do with outside exteriors, as well as interior stone walls and fireplaces,” says Jarrod Nyce, vice president of Nyce Crete and Landis Block & Concrete. “Some people do their research and have a good idea of what they want, and others will come in for ideas and then see something here and say, ‘I want this in my backyard. How do I get there?’ We can show them how to get to the finish line.”

At Nyce Crete and Landis Block & Concrete’s spacious showroom, homeowners can peruse a near-endless lineup of materials and design possibilities for hardscaping and masonry projects of every sort—from patios and stone veneers to pool decks and custom fire features. In addition to Cambridge wall systems and pavers, which are available in dozens of colors and shapes, the company offers an array of natural stone, including Belgian block, fieldstone and distinctive Pennsylvania flagstone.

“Somebody can imagine what they want, but their vision becomes reality when they come in here to see and touch the stone,” says Nyce. “It’s sort of like going to a furniture store; you want to sit down on a couch before you buy

it. We’re family owned and operated, and we’ve been around for more than 75 years, so we have a lot of experience. We want to make sure our customers are happy, and we always stand behind our products.”

Nyce suggests most of his customers require the assistance of a qualified professional to bring their home improvement project to life. For homeowners who need guidance when choosing a contractor to complete the job, Nyce Crete and Landis Block & Concrete wants to help. Over the years, the company has cultivated a preferred network of highly skilled, reputable craftsmen who specialize in hardscaping and masonry.

On the other hand, Nyce Crete and Landis Block & Concrete prides itself on serving as a one-stop resource center for DIY customers. A team member can usher a homeowner through the facility’s thousands of square feet of displays to sort through the options. Team members do not work on commission, Nyce adds; rather, their only goal is to help homeowners find the right stone in the right color at the right price, while offering crucial insights that can ensure the job’s success.

“Realistically, homeowners who want to do a fire pit all by themselves can walk in here on a Saturday morning and have a completed fire pit by Sunday night,” he says. “Our team is well-versed in the basics of installation, so if a customer has the interest and is capable of doing it without a contractor, we can help them

figure out exactly what they need. We’re also familiar with permitting and building codes, so we can help them steer clear of problems or situations they’re going to want to avoid.”

No matter the need, Nyce says his company can help a homeowner complete a project easily and efficiently. The homeowner’s only constraints are budget, space, and imagination—“and all three have to be considered,” he adds. Although winter might not seem like a good time to start a home-improvement project to enhance one’s enjoyment of the outdoors, Nyce suggests plotting out the details now can increase the likelihood that the project will be complete by the arrival of kinder weather.

“May is right around the corner,” he adds. “Contractors book up fast, so start planning now. If you don’t have someone lined up already, we can give you three or four names of people to begin the process—and we’re always here to help you consider all of your options. If you want your outdoor living space to be ready by graduation day or even the Fourth of July, you don’t want to wait until the ground gets warm and the grass is getting green.” **H&H**



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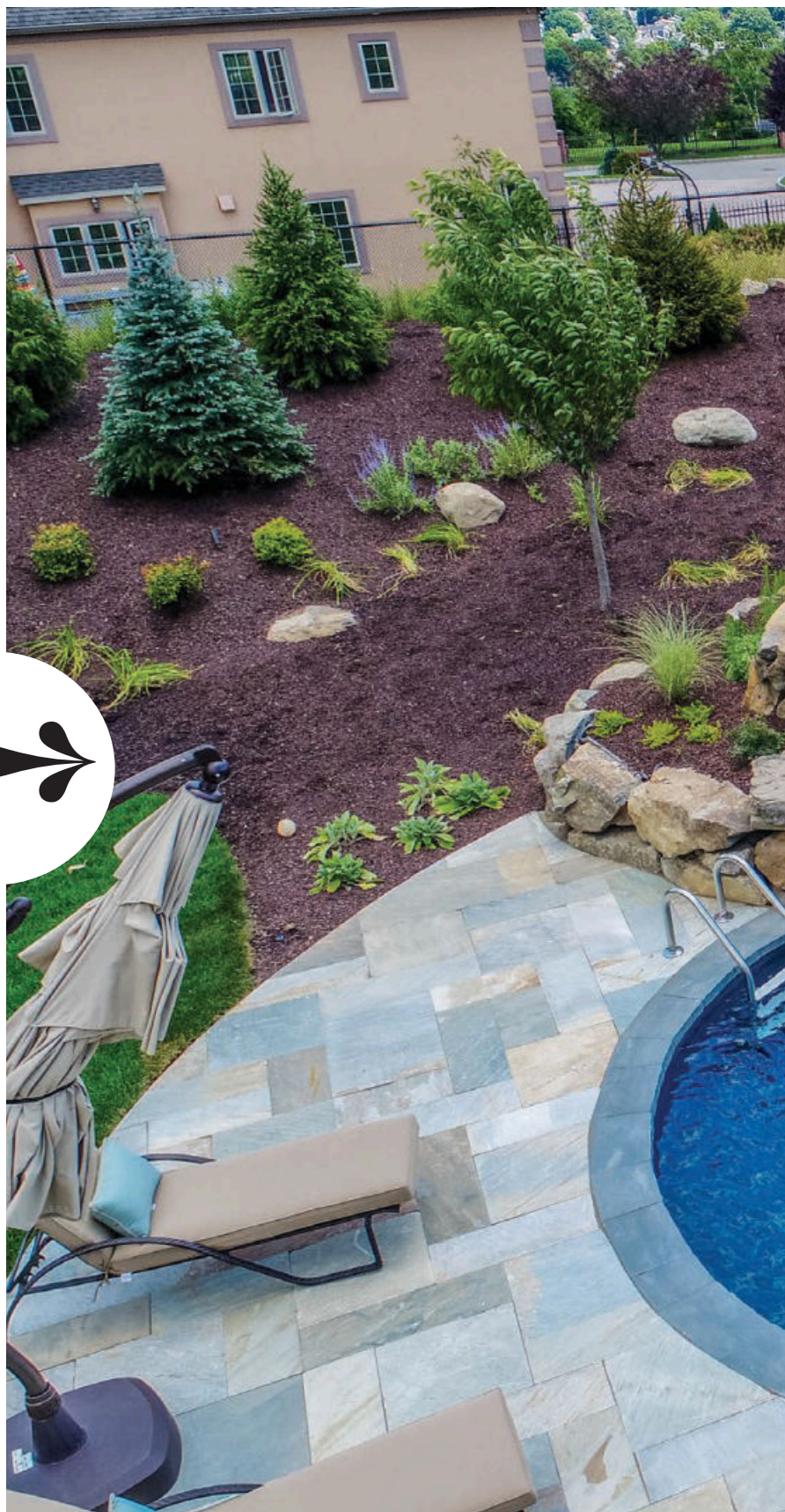
# HEAD START



BY LINDSEY GETZ

**W**hile we may not be finished with snow and icy temperatures just yet, warmer days are just ahead and the only way to be truly ready for them is to start planning now. Landscaping professionals are already gearing up for their busy season and booking jobs. Homeowners who are waiting to make that call risk getting left behind as landscapers fill their schedules on a first-come-first-serve fashion.

“Checking in with your landscaper before the spring is an excellent idea,” says Chelsea Feast, sales and marketing-Go Green Division-at Elite Landscaping. “Professional landscapers are extremely busy in the spring because they are starting to install



Landscape design sketch and project images courtesy of CLC Landscape Design

# LANDSCAPING CALENDAR



MOST HOMEOWNERS DON'T  
REALIZE JUST HOW MUCH TIME  
IT TAKES TO PLAN A PROJECT.  
...IT PAYS TO GET THOSE  
PLANS STARTED EARLY..."

—Richard Cording Sr.,  
owner of CLC Landscape Design

# HEAD START

all of the projects that were planned during the winter. Therefore, the longer you wait to reach out and plan, the longer you will end up waiting for the project to get on their schedule and get completed.”

“It’s never too early to get ready for spring—especially if you’re looking for something fun to do,” says Tammy Panetta of D. Panetta Contracting. “D. Panetta does 3D designs of your yard to show you what you can do by bringing it to life on the screen. You can see how your yard can become the backyard paradise you are dreaming of. Then, when you approve the design, we’re ready to bring it to life for you.”

## Plan Now for Warm Weather Fun

The landscaping experts we spoke with all stressed that the “offseason” is an excellent time to start the planning and designing phase of an outdoor living project—particularly if it’s a larger undertaking like a new patio, an outdoor kitchen or maybe even a pool. In fact, it’s simply not feasible to have a project like this finished if it doesn’t get underway early on.

“Most homeowners don’t realize just how much time it takes to plan a project,” says Richard Cording Sr., LIC, owner of CLC Landscape Design. “A lot of that process is out of our hands with permitting being required for even smaller projects these days. We’ve had permits take two or three months to get approved as the local townships are often overburdened with receiving so many at once. It pays to get those plans started early so that there are no hold-ups when it’s time to build.”

“The offseason is the best time to start planning your landscape updates and renovations,” adds Dave Zimmerman, owner of Zimmerman Landscaping. “Unfortunately, those who wait until the first signs of spring to start thinking about their landscape could be in for a long wait. If it’s a large

project, you may not even be able to enjoy it until the following season. We always recommend getting on your landscape provider’s radar well ahead of time—even if it’s just an idea at this point.”

Planning in the winter is also a great way to get through those “wintertime blues,” adds Dean Johnston, owner, Johnston & Associates Land and Water Creations.

“It also helps you create a budget so that you don’t overspend

or rush into something,” Johnston says. “I find a lot of mistakes with homeowners who are just rushing to put something together at the last minute.”

Cording says that acting soon will also help avoid disappointment. He has had first-hand experience with this and says he always gets last-minute calls from homeowners who want to have a brand-new patio built in time for their child’s high school graduation party or a pool installed in time for Memorial Day swimming. It’s difficult to have to disappoint those people.

“It’s no fun having to tell a homeowner who is excited about their project that it’s not going to be ready in the timeframe that they want it,” Cording admits. “But when you don’t make that call until March, it’s just not realistic. Even if we worked as fast as we could, there will always be factors like weather and permitting that are out of our hands. In most cases, we’re already starting to break ground on projects by mid-March, so you want all the designs and permitting to be finished by then.”

Of course, planning ahead doesn’t only apply to large-scale design/build projects. While it’s

definitely critical that you get those on the calendar, you can also use the offseason to plan for maintenance projects. Feast says that the winter is a good time to create checklists of smaller items that you plan to do (or want your landscaper to complete) in the spring such as power washing and resealing your patio or deck, repairing loose boards or bricks in outdoor spaces and making sure that all outdoor lights are operational.

## Trends on the Horizon

In terms of what homeowners are interested in, the big trends seem to be all about “backyard vacation destinations,” says Zimmerman. Homeowners are looking for lots of amenities like new patios with outdoor fire places, built-in stone pizza ovens, outdoor kitchens and combination water/fire features for amazing “accent pieces,” Zimmerman adds.

Sam Waddell, owner of SLS Landscaping, agrees and says that the “stay-cation” trend continues to reign in popularity. If anything, homeowners are getting more elaborate than ever with their backyard paradises. He says that it’s due to the fact that people are



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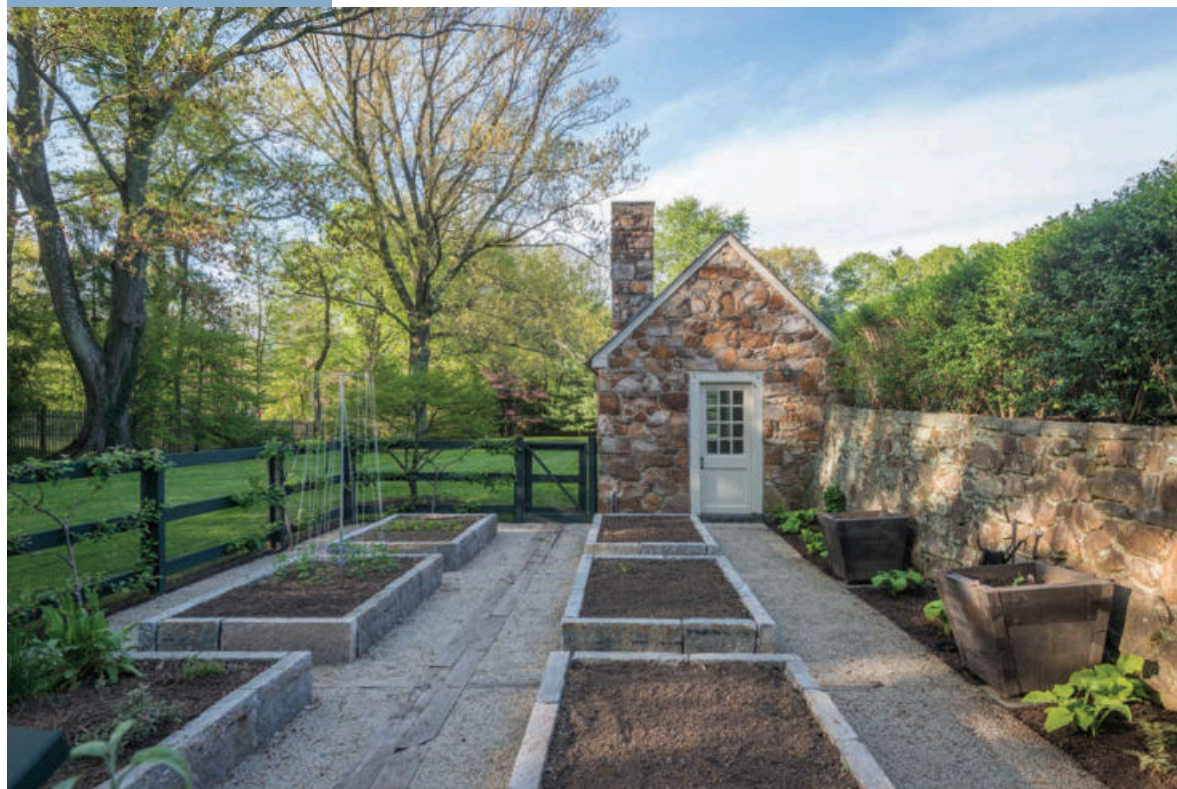


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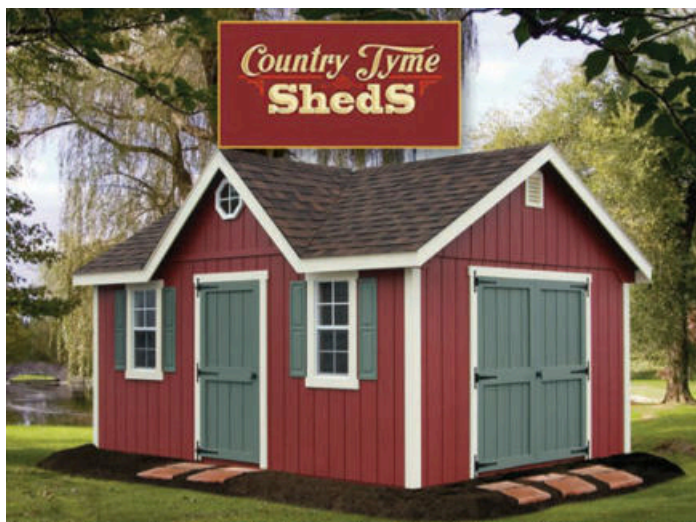
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## HEAD START

spending more time at home and want to have a backyard they can enjoy.

Beyond outdoor living spaces, there are other trends to pay attention to in 2019 as well. Christine Gale, president of Gale Nurseries, says that she's seeing more requests to accommodate organic lifestyles.

"Many clients are requesting vegetable gardens so that they can eat organic," she says. "We have done a lot of raised-bed vegetable gardens recently. Along that topic, we have done some very interesting chicken coops and even vineyards. People want to grow their own food and it's an easy way to accommodate an organic lifestyle."

Along those same lines, there's also an increased interest in being environmentally friendly.

"Permeable pavers are gaining a lot of attention as they reduce or even eliminate any rain or storm water runoff," adds Zimmerman. "This is great for the environment as it keeps water from your property out of storm drains leading to rivers and streams and eventually to the ocean. Sustainability is becoming a key feature in our ever-changing climate."

### Making Smart Choices

As you think ahead to the summer, Johnston advises that you make sure you "work with a professional."

"You may find that anybody with a truck calls themselves a landscaper," he says. "But many of us go to school in the winter to sharpen our skills and knowledge. An educated designer and builder will help you get the right results the first time. I work with a lot of clients who went with the cheap contractor first because they wanted to save some dollars but ended up spending two times what it would have cost to work with an experienced and educated

contractor in the first place."

The bottom line? Reach out to a professional who has your best interest at heart and plan now. If you want to be able to actually enjoy your space all summer long, you must plan ahead.

"Meeting with a landscape professional now enables sufficient time to design the swimming pool, outdoor kitchen and landscape, make necessary revisions to plans, submit for permits and schedule and order job materials," Waddell says. "Projects implemented in late winter and early spring will provide for all-season-long use of the new backyard, giving family and friends time to enjoy it!"

**H&H**



## RESOURCES

### CLC Landscape Design

Ringwood, N.J.  
(973) 839-6026  
[CLCDesign.com](http://CLCDesign.com)

### D. Panetta Contracting, LLC

Randolph, N.J.  
(973) 659-9374  
[DPanettaContracting.com](http://DPanettaContracting.com)

### Elite Landscaping

Berlin, N.J.  
(800) 582-6598  
[EliteLandscaping.com](http://EliteLandscaping.com)

### Gale Nurseries

Gwynedd Valley, Pa.  
(215) 699-4714  
[GaleNurseries.com](http://GaleNurseries.com)

### Johnston & Associates Land and Water Creations

Newark, Del.  
(302) 521-2984  
[LandAndWaterCreations.com](http://LandAndWaterCreations.com)

### SLS Landscaping

Lumberton, N.J.  
(609) 518-5263  
[SLSLandscape.com](http://SLSLandscape.com)

### Zimmerman Landscaping

Serving New Jersey  
(908) 240-6459  
[ZimmermanLandscapingLLC.com](http://ZimmermanLandscapingLLC.com)

# Dilworth's Custom Design

**C**abinets are the main design element in your kitchen. Like fine furniture, your cabinetry should always look beautiful in addition to being functional. The value in both beauty and function is the quality of materials and construction. Since quality can vary greatly, homeowners should make sure to do an apples-to-apples comparison.

Few people know the skills and details of custom cabinetry like Dan Dilworth, owner/CEO of Dilworth's Custom Design. He started his cabinet-making business in his father's garage in 1990 and it has since grown to a family-run, full-service kitchen and bathroom remodeling company. *House & Home* spoke with Dilworth about what makes custom kitchen cabinetry a better choice and how homeowners can create a design unique to their kitchen.

## What effort goes into the construction of custom cabinetry?

Quality, custom-built cabinetry is made to last and just like a high-quality chair or sofa, it's the things you don't see that make all the difference. Good joinery techniques such as dovetail or mortise and tenon make for stronger joints and more durable cabinets. Glue, staples or nails can be used to reinforce the wood joinery techniques, but used alone they make for a less sturdy construction.

Cabinet boxes made with furniture grade plywood and wood block corner braces for reinforcement are far superior to particle board with plastic corner braces. High-quality drawer parts made of solid wood stand up to the abuse of frequent opening and closing. Since thicker is stronger, shelving is made of ¾-inch plywood with a ¼-inch maple edge.



EXPERTISE: CUSTOM CABINETS



Dan Dilworth, owner/CEO

Internal hardware also plays a part in your cabinetry. Concealed undermount slides offer a full drawer extension to eliminate that area in the back of the drawer that often can't be used. Higher load ratings on the slides also mean more longevity. Adjustable shelf tracks and hinges allow for future adjustments. Soft-close hinges and drawer slides allow silent and smooth closure.

## How does custom cabinetry allow someone to maximize the potential of their kitchen?

Stock cabinetry is mass produced and usually only available in standard depths and widths. This can result in the need to use fillers when your space doesn't conform. On the other hand, custom cabinetry is built to the exact size needed for your kitchen. Nearly every inch of space is utilized when the cabinets are custom made, giving a fitted look that is not available with stock.

## What options do homeowners have for the style and color of their custom cabinets?

Door and drawer style and color are limited in stock cabinetry, often to just a few of the most popular. If you are looking for a unique style or color to express your individuality, then custom is the only option.

Being able to choose the wood species is another plus. Whether you just love the warmth of cherry or the beautiful grain of

walnut or, if you are more interested in the environmental impact of your choices, custom cabinetry offers a broad range of options. Finish options are virtually unlimited. Paint or stain, and special finishes such as time-worn can be customized. Additional finish like glazing is hand-applied and can be heavy or light to achieve the desired effect.

Trim is one of those things that is often overlooked. Beautifully crafted crown and plinth moulding, decorative corbels and furniture-style legs can all be incorporated into the design of your kitchen cabinetry. Trim is the "finishing touch" that enhances the look of your space.

These choices of wood species, style, finish, color and trim can be used in any combination with the end result being a manifestation of your dreams and desires that is completely unique to you.

## What qualities make your company stand out?

The importance of skilled installers plays a vital role. A shoddy installation job can negate the benefits of even the finest cabinetry. Dedicated craftsmen using only the highest quality materials, paired with experienced and skilled installers, guarantee that your custom cabinetry is an investment that will last for years. And of course, the final consideration is the local factor. You know exactly where and how your cabinetry is being made and you can even make arrangements to visit the shop. **H&H**

**Dilworth's Custom Design**

175 N. Whitehorse Road | Phoenixville, Pa.  
(610) 917-9119 | [DilworthsCustomDesign.com](http://DilworthsCustomDesign.com)

# a truly customer-centered company

How Colonial Marble & Granite has become a household name.

**I**magine standing in your brand-new kitchen—sipping on your morning coffee or enjoying a little evening snack as you take in the beauty of your gorgeous countertops, the elegance of your new kitchen cabinets, and the sleek look of your new tile floor. If you’ve been dreaming of this space for a long time, you can probably picture it in your mind. But now you can do more than just imagine it. With Colonial Marble & Granite’s Kitchen Visualizer tool, you can virtually build the space on your computer—all from the comfort of your own home (or one of Colonial’s locations if you’re there browsing materials). You’ll not only see how it can all come together, but also get a quote for how much it’s going to cost. It’s a tool that can help make your dream kitchen a reality.

The Kitchen Visualizer is just one of many ways in which Colonial—a family-owned business that opened its doors in 2008—has continued to offer its clients world-class customer service. Keeping the customer at the center of the company’s rapid growth has left them constantly innovating and looking for ways to fully meet their customers’ needs. There’s no question that this “customer-centered growth” has been a key to their success.

## A One-Stop Provider

Beyond this technology, Colonial—a full-service supplier of natural stone and quartz materials—is also continuing to offer its customers the best by being a truly one-stop provider for all home (and commercial) renovation needs. With a slab yard with more than 5,000 slabs in over 500 different colors, there’s truly something for everyone. Colonial also offers tile, sinks and faucets.

In terms of what’s popular right now, James Freeman, Colonial’s chief operating officer, says that quartz continues to be trending upward. However, with such a vast selection of stone materials including granite, marble, onyx, quartz, quartzite, travertine and more, there’s something for every taste, style and budget.

“We are proud to offer an extensive showroom that gives our customers the wide selection that they want access to,” Freeman says. “However, we also understand that a choice this big can be overwhelming, which is why our designers are available to guide our customers in

**“How we can best meet our customers’ wants and needs continues to be at the heart of all of Colonial’s expansion and growth.”**

—James Freeman, Colonial’s chief operating officer



making a selection that they'll love. We want every aspect of the process to be both easy and enjoyable for the customer."

### A Demand to Expand

As Colonial has continued to become a household name, there's been a growing demand for the company to offer even more services. That's why the Colonial brand has now expanded to include Colonial Home Services. Under this umbrella is Colonial Generators and Colonial Smart Home Services, giving customers access to the same top-notch customer service they've come to count on for more of their needs.

While Colonial Smart Home Services handles upgrading homes with more smart controls, Colonial Generators is a leading emergency generator installation company that has simplified the process of purchasing, designing, installing and monitoring standby backup power systems.

On top of expanding the company's service offerings, Colonial has also grown regionally by adding new locations. This has increased access of Colonial's services by customers who were otherwise driving quite far to be able to work with the company.

"It became obvious that we were getting

### A Company that Cares

It's no doubt that Colonial has grown its business by being a company that cares about its customers. But Colonial is also a company that cares about the community. They believe strongly in giving back to the local areas that have so wholeheartedly supported them over the years. As a result, they are devoted to a number of local and national causes. For instance, they have focused a lot of attention on raising funding for childhood cancer research and have maintained a strong partnership with Alex's Lemonade Stand. Colonial also supports the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

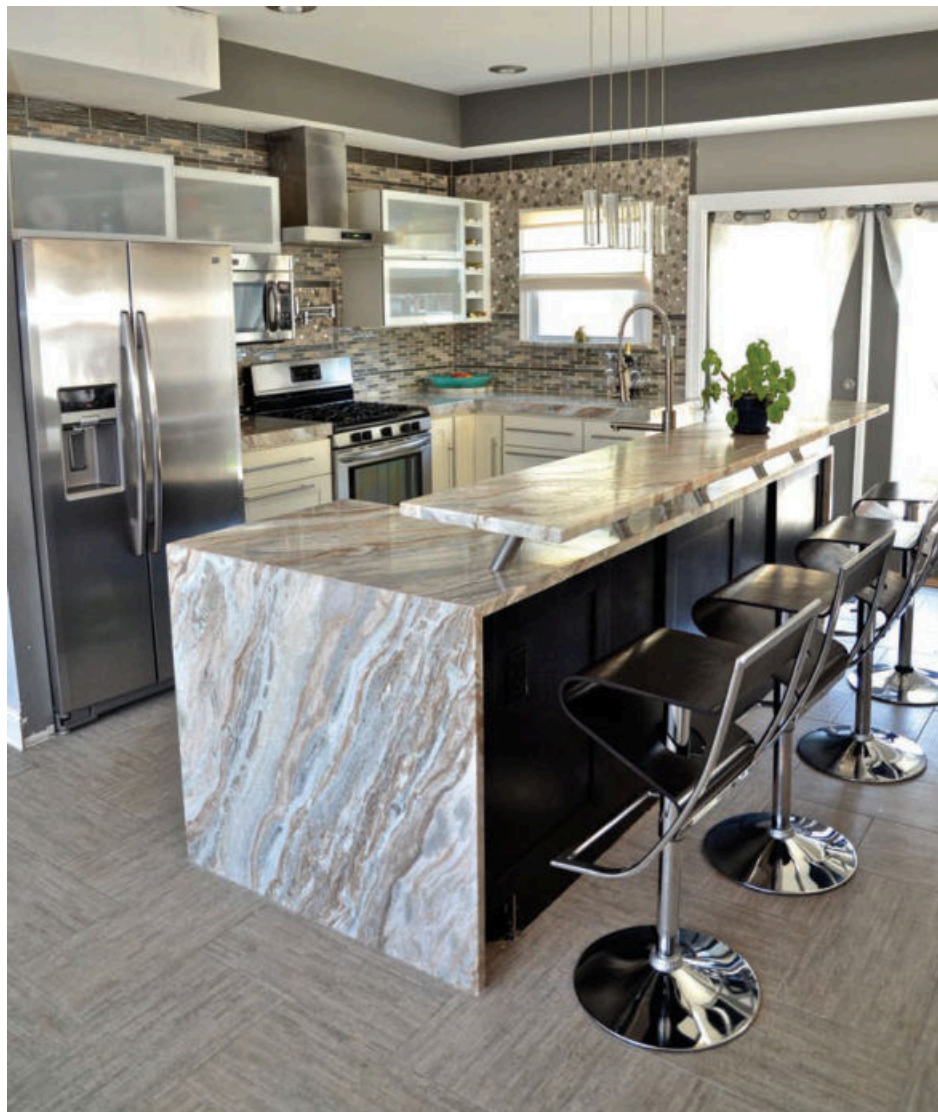
On top of that, Colonial recently hosted its annual Charity Golf Outing and raised more than \$100,000 to support Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Upper Darby.

"We've always believed in giving back," says Freeman, "and our growth has made it even more possible to do more for the causes we believe in."

Colonial is also an avid supporter of local sports and a proud sponsor of the Temple Owls, Philadelphia Flyers, Philadelphia Union, Philadelphia Sixers, and more.

As the company continues to undoubtedly grow, Freeman says that their commitments to the customer and to the community at large will remain unwavering.

"We recognize that it's our customers who have helped us get this far and that's why we'll continue to look out for them," Freeman says. "We're proud to be thought of as a company that makes the customer our top priority." **H&H**



"How we can best meet our customers' wants and needs continues to be at the heart of all of Colonial's expansion and growth," says Freeman. "With the growing demand for the installation of smart home applications like Nest, there's been interest from our customers in having those services performed by a brand they've already come to know and trust which is why we've expanded into smart home services."

quite a few out-of-state customers who were driving a couple of hours or more to one of our showrooms," says Freeman. "Our flagship King of Prussia location remains our largest showroom but we've grown to include showrooms in Center City Philadelphia, Harrisburg, and New Castle, Delaware. With four locations we're now more accessible to New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Metro New York."

### Colonial Marble & Granite

475 S. Henderson Road  
King of Prussia, Pa.  
(610) 994-2222

768 Corporate Circle  
New Cumberland, Pa.  
(717) 774-2110

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PG. 34



# Welcome to the 2019 Philly Home + Garden Show!

**W**hether you've come to find inspiration for your next home improvement project or the professional who can help you achieve it, we're glad you're here! It's the mission of the Philly Home + Garden Show to connect you with the newest ideas and products and the most qualified professionals.

We understand, too, if you're ready to experience an exhilarating taste of spring. It's almost intoxicating to take in the expanded feature gardens, along with fresh offerings from Cameron Peters Floral Design's Flower Market.

This year, we've upped the "wow" factors you'll discover in the Smart Home and Ultimate Backyard, and we've added more opportunities for you to acquire some new DIY skills (and bring home the decorative results). So, take your time as you take it all in, and enjoy the show!

Sincerely,  
Jenna Naffin,  
Show Manager

## PHILLY HOME + GARDEN SHOW

### SHOW HOURS:

FRIDAY

**February 15**  
11 a.m.–9 p.m.

SATURDAY

**February 16**  
10 a.m.–9 p.m.

SUNDAY

**February 17**  
10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### WHERE:

**Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks**

100 Station Ave.  
Oaks, PA 19456

**February 15–17**

(GPS address)  
1601 Egypt Road  
Phoenixville, PA 19460  
(Upper Providence Township)

### TICKET INFORMATION:

**Adults (at the door): \$11**

**Adults (online only): \$8**

**Children Ages 12 and under: FREE**

**Purchase tickets for only \$8 at your local Wegmans.**



[PhillyHomeandGarden.com](http://PhillyHomeandGarden.com)

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## You've Gotta See This:

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Experience the next generation of high-tech, at-home comfort in this all-new, custom Smart Home that's built by Rudloff Custom Builders and powered by Xfinity. Then, step outside for an outdoor space by Belgard that will inspire you to take your backyard to the next level — it's the Ultimate Backyard!



### Doorway to Spring

Immerse yourself in more than 7,500 square feet of glorious gardens, and spring won't seem so far away! Explore the newest gardening techniques, ideas and must-have products for 2019, and shop the flower market, garden market and more.



### The Barking Lot

Don't leave the show without visiting the new Barking Lot pet market! Delight your fur babies at home with goodies and accessories you select for them here (or some swag for yourself), and feel good about a portion of all sales benefiting the Pennsylvania SPCA.



### Make-it, Take-it workshops presented by The Painted Home

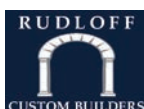
Here's where you can flex your DIY skills or learn new ones—and take home the results. Just attend a workshop to learn from our design experts how to make on-trend home decorations (bragging rights included).

### Succulent Bar

Treat yourself to a decorative new houseplant that you've designed, with "greens" selected from the DIY Succulent Bar hosted by Floral & Hardy. Choose from a variety of pots and planters, then fill with your choice of colorful succulents and "toppings" to bring home.



### Thank You to Our Show Partners!



## 2019 Philly Home + Garden Show Guide

# Adding Character

How to Use Natural Elements to Warm up Your Home



As design coordinator for hit DIY Network show, “Stone House Revival,” in-demand home designer and owner of The Painted Home, contributor to CountryLiving.com, Home Show spokesperson and creative leader of Make-it, Take-it craft workshops, designer Denise Sabia is the

ultimate resource on ways to add character to your home.

“Using natural materials as construction elements will help give a modern farmhouse feel and will warm it up,” Denise recommends. “You can also add some charm through decorative details.”

Add wood beams → to a plain ceiling.



↑ Cover a wall with shiplap, wainscoting or natural stone or brick veneers.



↓ Add wood shelves (or a floating nightstand).



↑ Use natural stone for a fireplace surround, and add a wood mantel.

Visit Denise Sabia at the Make-it, Take-it workshops and at ThePaintedHome.com.

## MIXING IT UP WITH MADCAP COTTAGE

Design Duo's Mission Is to Make Us Happier and More Confident

Catch Madcap Cottage on the Main Stage on Friday, Feb. 15, at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Displaying an exuberant mix of pattern and color, Madcap Cottage-branded fabrics, wallpapers, upholstered furniture and other home items are being snapped up as quickly as Madcap Cottage founders and partners Jason Oliver Nixon and John Loecke can design them. The self-professed fans of our area's gardens, architecture and culture plan to offer as many tips as possible this weekend, with the goal of making homeowners more confident—and happier.

### What does using a designer bring to a home improvement project?

A designer or decorator gets in your head to tell your story and bring your own brand to life. Helping to make things prettier makes them more enjoyable, and that makes people happy. We offer tips to make you more comfortable in exploring and showing off your own style, and we want you to feel good and have fun doing it.

### In your view, what decor items are worth splurging on?

Custom furniture is not just an indulgence for the wealthy, because it allows you to get just what you want, in the size, color and construction that best fits your space. Don't limit yourself; it can be more affordable than you think.

### What are some good decor projects for homeowners?

Paint the insides of your kitchen cabinets a bright color, and you'll smile every time you open them. Switch your lampshades, or make them more special by embellishing them with some glue and trim or decoupage. Swap out your sofa throw pillows, or the sofa body pillows, seasonally.

### Fill in the blank: The three things I can't live without are \_\_\_\_\_.

Plants and bulbs—we're big gardening fans (and love visiting Chanticleer Garden in Wayne). Being with our four rescue dogs and supporting rescue dog organizations. And books of all kinds, because they provide so much more than what you can get from a Kindle.

### What are your “musts” for any party?

Self-confidence! If you mess something up, just start over or order something. Prep food in advance so you're not cooking instead of being with guests. Bring a gift, but not cut flowers, so the host doesn't have to locate a vase and arrange them. Our main goal is to give you the tools and permission to be more creative and self-confident.

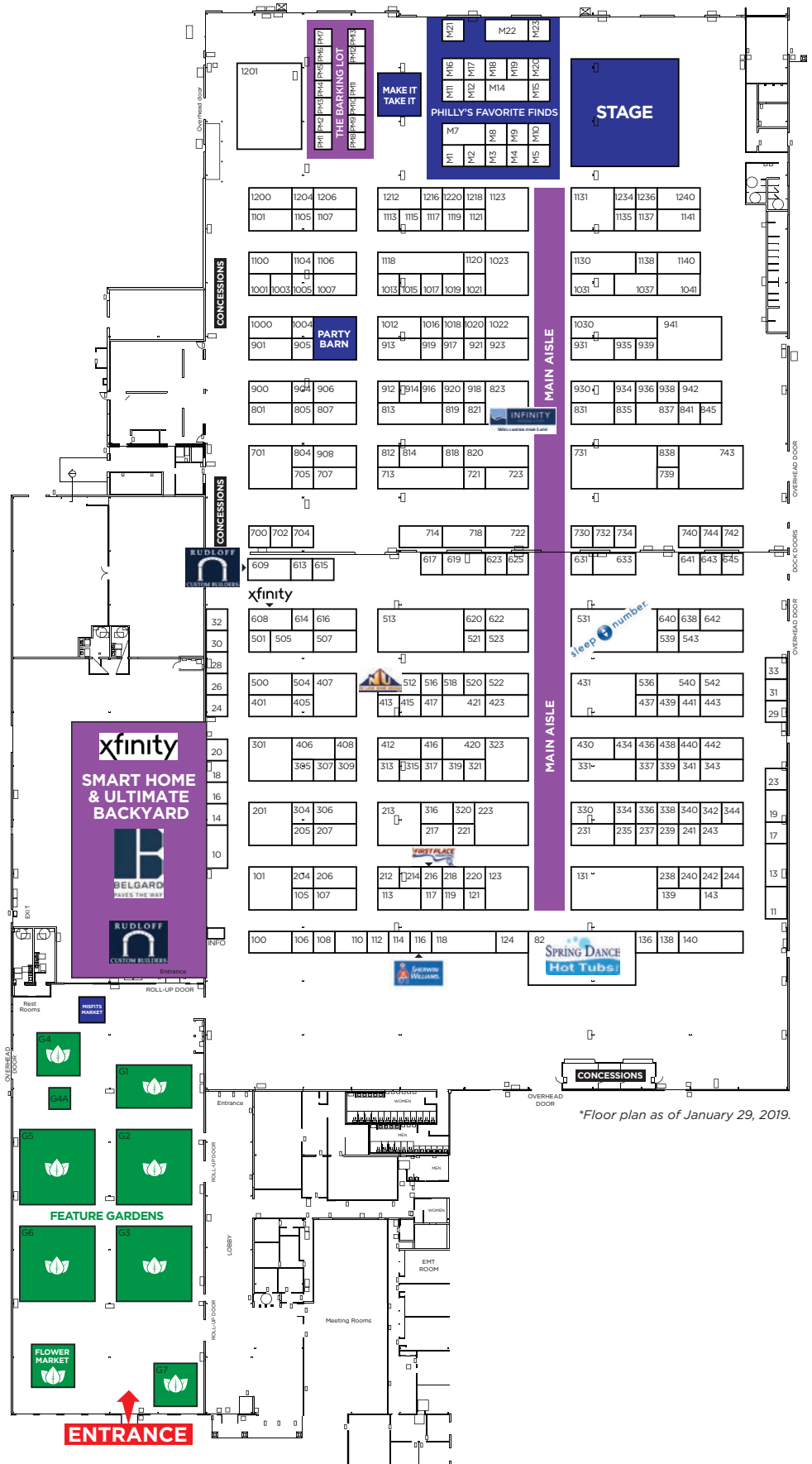
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\*Floor plan as of January 29, 2019.

# 2019 Philly Home + Garden Show Guide | CATEGORY DIRECTORY

## FEATURE GARDENS

AJR Environmental, Inc.  
Breyer Construction  
Cameron Peters Floral Design  
Crystal Clear Signature Pools  
Floral & Hardy  
Hetrick Gardens  
Misfits Market  
Renegade Winery  
Turpin Landscaping Design/Build

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Dignadbark.com PM4

# The All-new Smart Home Features a Farmhouse Style

## Immerse Yourself in Its Ultimate Backyard



**The 2019 Philly Home + Garden Show Smart Home has a whole new farmhouse look this year!** We've successfully paired the latest home trends from Rudloff Custom Builders with state-of-the-art Smart Home features that are powered by Xfinity.

The first difference starts with landscaping that welcomes you into the home. With spring around the corner, backyard lounging beckons, and Belgard Pavers & Hardscapes has designed a dream backyard patio that invites relaxation. In partnering with landscape artist Scott Baldelli of Scott Baldelli Gardening & Design, Belgard has created a backyard oasis that also features an edible landscape to help make the most of your backyard.

What's edible landscaping, you ask? Scott's practice of companion planting places herbs and vegetables among perennials and other ornamental flowers. This not only saves space, but is also beautiful to look at, is healthier for the garden and produces a delicious, homegrown bounty.

Entering the home, you're greeted by a rustic farmhouse interior, featuring an open and airy floor plan. With the kitchen transitioning seamlessly into the living room and dining room, the flow naturally lifts the spirit and is great for entertaining. The kitchen features a large, multipurpose island, flat-panel Shaker cabinets, detailed millwork—such as pillars and fine carpentry detail—and COREtec flooring from Avalon. The exposed beams and other rustic touches echo our region's heritage and have become a popular style found in many national and international design shows. But there's more to designing a whole home than just using distinctive details.

"Whether you're building from scratch or renovating a space, it's important to take the whole home into consideration," explains Ed Rudloff of Rudloff Custom Builders. "The old style is to design room by room, which ends up giving the home a disjointed and segmented feel. Working from design through to build and into interior design and decor is how we work with our clients and is something we'd suggest that show-goers keep in mind.

Identify your overall vision, and make sure that every room answers to that vision."

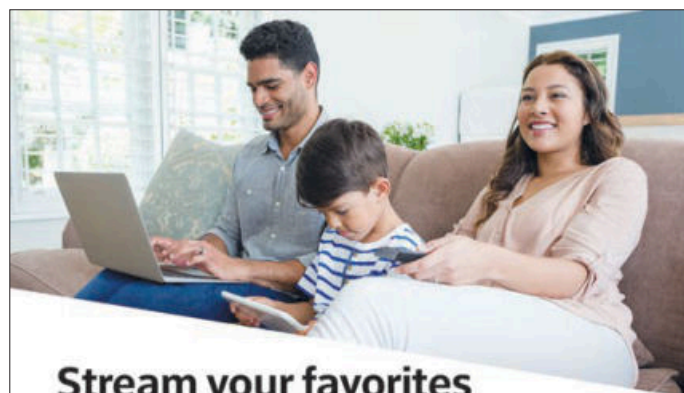
To showcase the farmhouse design, the Restore Decor Design House team of interior designers has decorated and detailed the home with complementary furniture and decor that enhances the open floor plan and enhances the farmhouse feel. In combining personal style with the art of interior design, the team has created a truly custom home that incorporates textures, materials and shapes to marry form and function and inspire your next home design project.

What makes it a smart some is that it also features Xfinity Home, Comcast's total home security and automation solution that provides peace of mind and complete control of your home's wireless devices. For example, by simply saying "good night" into your X1 voice remote, you can lock doors, turn off lights, adjust the thermostat and arm your home security system.

With Xfinity Home, you can further personalize your home system and get real-time alerts when activity is detected, so you're always aware of your home's security—whether at home or on the go. Integrated technology allows you to view live video on your television from the comfort of your couch by saying "Xfinity Home cameras" into the X1 voice remote. What's more, you can always access your system on the go via the Xfinity Home app for mobile devices.

The Smart Home is also equipped with Xfinity xFi, which allows you to set up your home Wi-Fi network, find your password, see what devices are connected to your network, troubleshoot issues, set parental controls and even pause Wi-Fi access during dinner or at bedtime. Those looking to extend reliable Wi-Fi coverage in hard-to-reach areas of their home can check out Xfinity xFi Pods, a new option for customers' whole-home Wi-Fi needs.

Spend some time with Rudloff Custom Builders and Xfinity in the Smart Home as you enter the Philly Home + Garden Show—and experience how the latest in technology and design can improve your own home life.



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Check out the **Smart Home** powered by Xfinity at the show today to learn more.



Restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. Call for restrictions and complete details. NPA216919-0017

# 2019 Philly Home + Garden Show Guide | MAIN STAGE SCHEDULE

## Friday, February 15

- 1pm Scott Baldelli Gardening**  
*Seasonal Tips: Taking the Guesswork out of Garden Maintenance*
- 2pm Misfits Market**  
*Food Waste & Sustainability - How you can eat better; eat more affordably, and help save the world*
- 5pm Turpin Landscaping**  
*Heating Efficiently with Wood and Masonry Heaters*
- 6pm John Loecke and Jason Oliver Nixon of Madcap Cottage**  
*From Drab to Fab: How to Make Your Home a Knockout With Prints, Patterns & Color*

## Saturday, February 16

- 11am Ty Pennington of TLC's Trading Spaces**
- 12pm Scott Baldelli Gardening**  
*Seasonal Tips: Taking the Guesswork out of Garden Maintenance*
- 1pm John Loecke and Jason Oliver Nixon of Madcap Cottage**  
*From Drab to Fab: How to Make Your Home a Knockout With Prints, Patterns & Color*
- 2pm Turpin Landscaping**  
*Outdoor Living*
- 3pm Misfits Market**  
*Food Waste & Sustainability - How you can eat better; eat more affordably, and help save the world*
- 4pm John Loecke and Jason Oliver Nixon of Madcap Cottage**  
*From Drab to Fab: How to Make Your Home a Knockout With Prints, Patterns & Color*

## Sunday, February 17

- 1pm Misfits Market**  
*Food Waste & Sustainability - How you can eat better; eat more affordably, and help save the world*
- 2pm Scott Baldelli Gardening**  
*Seasonal Tips: Taking the Guesswork out of Garden Maintenance*
- 3pm Turpin Landscaping**  
*Wet Basements, Rain Water Harvest, and Rain Gardens*

Presentation times and topics subject to change



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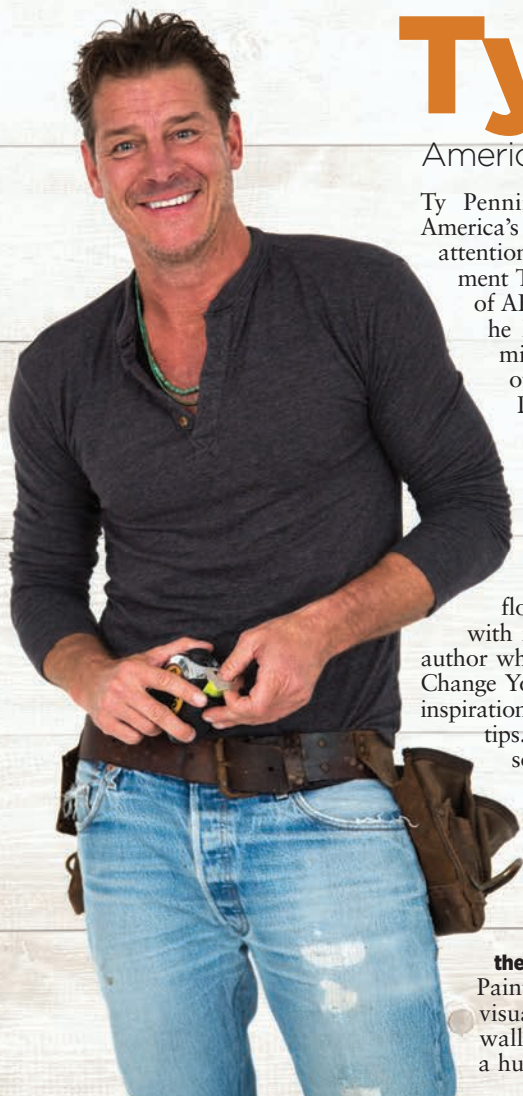
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Catch Ty on the Main Stage on **Saturday, Feb. 16 at 11 am**



# Ty Time

America's Best-known Carpenter

Ty Pennington could easily be referred to as America's best-known carpenter. He first gained our attention on the groundbreaking home improvement TV series, "Trading Spaces." Later, as host of ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," he helped to transform lives while inspiring millions to volunteer their time to help others. For Food Network's "American Diner Revival," he traveled the country, breathing new life into local diners. In 2018, Ty reunited with the cast of TLC's "Trading Spaces" for a new season of episodes, which instantly became the network's number one show.

Ty is also recognized for his design expertise and style, as seen in his fabric, flooring and outdoor and holiday decor lines with major brands and retailers. He is also an author whose latest book, "How Good Design Can Change Your Life," is an intimate look at his design inspirations, offering many pieces of decor advice and tips. Here are a few he gave us, along with some personal insights.

## Where do you go online to find inspiration?

I usually start with the Instagram Search page.

## What's an easy DIY project that homeowners can tackle to improve their space?

Painting is the easiest one and offers the most visual impact. Whether you do one accent wall or an entire room, a pop of color makes a huge transformation.

## What's one thing you wish every homeowner knew?

Don't get frustrated! Stay on track, and you'll enjoy every project.

## What are your best small space living hacks?

Use multipurpose furniture and unique storage ideas.

## What decor items are worth splurging on?

Art, accessories and books.

## What's something to watch out for when working with a contractor or interior designer?

Everything. Stay in control and ask questions. Don't be afraid to state your opinion. Be true to your vision for the project and stay realistic with your goals.

## What's a common mistake homeowners make when they take on a home improvement project themselves?

The belief that they can do the tough stuff on their own. When it comes to plumbing, electrical or heavy-duty construction, call in the pros!

## What are your best outdoor decor tips?

Keep it simple and natural. Good lighting goes a long way, too.

## Would you rather upgrade your closet, bathroom or kitchen?

Since I just built a new home, I'm pretty good with all three—but I can always use more closet space.

## What's a must-have at any party you're throwing?

Old-school albums and record player.

## If you had to move to another country, which would you pick, and why?

That's tough, but either Japan, where I lived when I was in my 20s, or Germany, where I lived when I was a kid. I love both countries, and they feel like home.

# MAKE-IT, Take-It

## Friday, February 15

### 12pm Mail Holder with Aspect Tile

Scottie Vosburgh | Saved by Scottie  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 1pm TBD

TBD | Beth's Custom Creations LLC,  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TBD

### 2pm Chalk Painting Candle Holders

Maria Roberts | Salvaged Furniture  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

## Saturday, February 16

### 10am Hanging Botanical Prints

Lindsey Boehmke | Hilltown House LLC  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 11pm Chalk Art by Independent Designer

Wendy D'Annunzio | Chalk Couture  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 12pm Mail Holder with Aspect Tile

Scottie Vosburgh | Saved by Scottie  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 1pm Rustic Driftwood Tree

Joanne Jacob | Old Mill Antiques & Interiors  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 2pm Up-Cycled Paper Rose Stems

Jesse Mayer | Revamp Champ  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: MODERATE

### 3pm Chalk Art by Independent Designer

Wendy D'Annunzio | Chalk Couture  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 4pm DIY Self Care

Heather Ely | Starfish Essentials  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

## Sunday, February 17

### 11am Mail Holder with Aspect Tile

Scottie Vosburgh | Saved by Scottie  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 12pm Chalk Painting Candle Holders

Maria Roberts | Salvaged Furniture  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 1pm Rustic Driftwood Tree

Joanne Jacob | Old Mill Antiques & Interiors  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 2pm Chalk Art by Independent Designer

Wendy D'Annunzio | Chalk Couture  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

### 3pm Home Decor/Paint a Sign

Beth Klein | Beth's Custom Creations LLC  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: DIFFICULT

### 4pm Hanging Botanical Prints

Lindsey Boehmke | Hilltown House LLC  
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: EASY

Schedule subject to change

## HOME SHOW SPOTLIGHT ON: CABINET REFACING



**How many years have you been in business or in this industry?**

I personally have been in the industry for 3 years, but this wonderful franchise has been in business for over 30 years.

**Why do you choose to promote your business at local home shows?**

There is no better opportunity to meet and talk directly to homeowners that are currently shopping for partners to help them with projects they have identified. When we meet in person, we can quickly determine if we have a fit on a personal and functional level.

**What separates yourself from your competitors?**

With over 30-plus years in business as a national franchise with local ownership, our customers work with us because: we stand behind the work; we have extensive reviews regarding our professional work; we don't play games in the sales process and we don't employ high pressure tactics, and our customers

tell us they feel they are getting a quality product at a fair value. Our showroom allows us to work with our customers to help create and design the kitchen of their dreams and see all of the options available with hundreds of doors to choose from, tile for backsplash and a large selection of granite and quartz.



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# Character Counts

Go beyond cookie-cutter designs by adding custom iron and wood elements to your home. *by Brittany Ann Morrissey*

**Y**ou've bought your home, moved in all your furniture, hung the pictures and even painted those plain white walls. But even with your furniture and the paint still fresh on the wall, a home that just has basic builder-grade designs can still feel nondescript, like exiting a plane and walking through another airport terminal—it's not the same one you left from but it might as well be.

Fortunately, it doesn't take much to add true character to a space and make it reflect your style. And adding custom wood and iron elements is one of the best and easiest ways to do this.

## WOODEN DETAILS

"In many of the new homes,

builders are more focused on profits and leave out the very important details that give the home distinction and style," Josso Thomas Jr., owner of Josso Carpentry, says. "Adding ideas such as crown moldings, wainscoting and chair rails can make an amazing difference when stepping into a room."

Unlike many other upgrades that are costly and don't add any value to a home, the addition of these sort of moldings can actually increase your home's worth.

"Inexpensive moldings that are properly installed by a fine finish carpenter, like myself, can increase the value of a home by 10 to 20 percent," Thomas says.

Built-in shelving is another way

to incorporate wood features into a home in a way that will give a space more warmth and interest. Easy to install, they can be made to fit your exact room specifications.

Many homeowners opt for built-in shelving because it allows them to show off all their favorite trinkets and tchotchkes, which may otherwise have been thoughtlessly placed upon an end table or relegated to a drawer because of a lack of surface space for display.

And for the less precious items in your home that you don't want to show off? Well, an experienced carpenter can add cabinets to go along with your built-in shelving, giving you a place to store any unsightly clutter that you don't want to exhibit.

"I flip many homes in my area," Thomas says, "and with those additions and a fine paint job, the homes do not stay on the market very long."

## IRON DETAILS

Introducing texture to a space can be one of the simplest ways to add intrigue to the more basic areas of a home. One of the best elements to do that with is wrought iron.

"Iron work gives the house a very warm, homey feeling," John Lomonaco, owner of Lomonaco's Iron Concepts and Home Décor LLC, says.

Perfect for static entryways or staircases, decorative iron features can be customized to your tastes. Lomonaco says the most popular service he does is switching out the standard balusters on stairways for custom iron balusters.

“You can upgrade your stairway for a minimal cost compared to the added values you will receive,” he says.

Also popular are iron designs on front entry doors, inside and out. This is another place where your own creativity can shine because companies such as Lomonaco’s will let you dictate the design you want and then they will create it for you.



Smart upgrades such as switching out simple bannisters for wrought iron ones or having a beautiful custom wood wainscot installed may be all you need to create a home that breaks out of the mold.

Best of all, there is no special maintenance.

“Iron inside the home doesn’t really need any maintenance or upkeep,” Lomonaco says.

This is also true for iron pieces that are on the exterior of the home, like a portico rail above your front door, because they are treated with a primer that allows them to withstand the elements.

“All of our iron products for the exterior of the home all have a zinc-rich powder coated primer along with the powder coated finish color, with satin black being our most popular color for both interior and exterior iron products,” Lomonaco says.

When looking to add iron elements to your home, Lomonaco advises people do their homework first and make sure the company they’re hiring is reputable.

“Do your research and make sure the company you hire has at least an A rating on the Better Business Bureau,” he says.

#### BEYOND COOKIE CUTTER

Customizing a home to your taste can be overwhelming when you’re just starting out. But you don’t need to overhaul everything to get beyond the cookie-cutter feel of a builder-grade design.

Smart upgrades such as switching out simple bannisters for wrought iron ones or having a beautiful custom wood wainscot installed may be all you need to create a home that breaks out of the mold. **H&H**



#### RESOURCES

**Josso Carpentry, LLC**  
(973) 296-6258  
JossoCarpentry.com

**Lomonaco's  
Iron Concepts &  
Home Décor, LLC**  
Sewell, N.J.  
(856) 740-1071  
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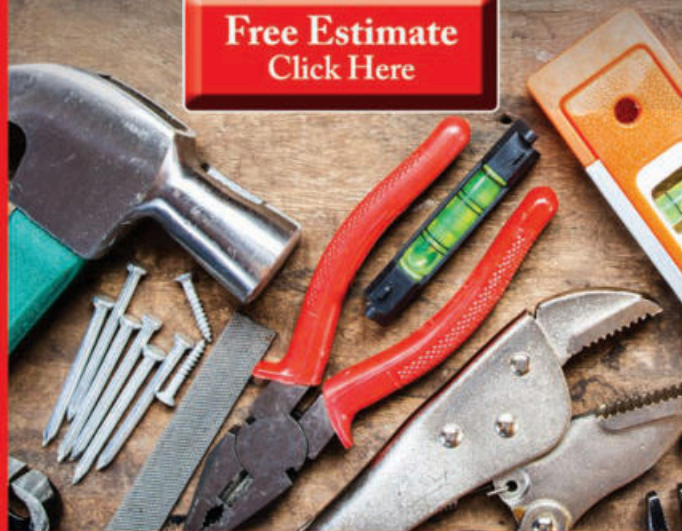
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# H&H profile

# Much More than a Roof

From metal to cedar, MR Roofing will give you a luxurious and reliable roof.

by Lauren Kubiak

**Roofs are the most essential part of the home, keeping your family and possessions protected from harsh weather conditions, whether it's heat, wind, rain or snow.** Asphalt shingles may be the most common roofing type you see nowadays, but growing in popularity are the most dependable and long-lasting roofing materials in the industry: metal, cedar and copper.

Without the proper installation or reliable products, a roof can't serve its main purpose and can leave you with a leaky interior and an eyesore exterior. At MR Roofing, homeowners feel at ease knowing they have professionals who offer craftsmanship to the highest degree with reliability, communication and quality for their customers. Henry Stoltzfus, owner of MR Roofing for nearly 10 years, makes sure his clients receive the best of the best in order to have a roof that not only stands up to weather conditions for years and years, but delivers curb appeal to the home.

## METAL ROOFING

If your roof needs replacing or even just a revamp, Stoltzfus suggests one of the three best roofing materials they provide. "Metal [was] a good roof hundreds of years ago and then we went through this major asphalt spurt, which is good roofing but metal has come back again and again," he says. "It is some of the best roofing you're going to be able to buy."

Although a lot of time and energy does go into installation, the roof fasteners being the most time consuming, homeowners will be glad they chose a roof that can be durable for over 100 years with little to no maintenance aside from a fresh coat of paint every 35 to 40 years.

"We use Drexel Metal and they have an extremely good paint process," Stoltzfus says. "It's heat dried and there are a couple of different layers of primers and a lot goes into that to try to make sure [there's no] cracking; protection against hail damage

[and other elements] is very important when it comes to paint because if you crack the paint, that's where it's going to fail."

When you choose metal, you say hello to an array of color choices, ultimately gaining a roof that adds value to your home.

## CEDAR ROOFING

Aside from metal, cedar roofing is available at MR Roofing for homeowners wanting to make a historical home cohesive and luxurious or add home value and aesthetics. The beautiful renovation can give homeowners the look they're striving for, as long as the roof is angular and a distance away from trees.

Similar to metal roofing, cedar has little to no maintenance because it's a natural product and can last just as long—when

wind up putting copper on those [areas]."

Copper is also a great accenting piece to roofs. It can be used to highlight a bay window or cupola to draw the eye and in small areas such as these, most other roofing materials don't work as well with small applications.

No matter the size, big or small, MR Roofing can complete any copper roofing project from flashing to standing seam to copper sheet roofing. "There's no maintenance. It's a natural product that doesn't decay," he says. "And you can cash it in for copper value even if it's 70 years old. They'll pay you for copper value."

"Your roof is there every day of the week, not just when it rains. It's not something you get out when it starts to rain and then put away again," Stoltzfus adds. "Curbside appeal



**Come visit us and talk to a roof pro at the Philly Home and Garden Show in Oaks, Pa. February 15 and 16, booth #642 [PhillyHomeAndGarden.com](http://PhillyHomeAndGarden.com)**

installed correctly. MR Roofing inspects each cedar shake for defective or odd-looking pieces and is adamant about installing felt between each piece of cedar to keep the roof dry and lasting longer.

If you can't choose between metal or cedar or if you don't want a uniform roof throughout, Stoltzfus suggests changing it up and adding accents. That can be a mostly metal roof with cedar accents, vice versa or adding in some copper details.

## COPPER ROOFING

Full copper roofing is perfect for homes where a portion, or the entire roof, is practically flat. If you want to get rid of the rubber on a flat roof, copper is the perfect solution. "Copper roofing, you could practically go flat because everything is soldered on," Stoltzfus says. "In a really expensive home where it's a low-pitched roof, normally what they'll use [is] copper because they don't want to see rubber; and it doesn't work for cedar or metal so we

is a huge part; it has to look nice; it has to fit in the neighborhood; you have to like it when you pull in [the driveway]."

MR Roofing is a division of Stable Hollow Construction. For additional renovation and construction services, visit [StableHollowConstruction.com](http://StableHollowConstruction.com). H&H



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## live

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**C**ollegeville-based Basement Waterproofing Specialists is a “family” business, in every sense of the word.

They are fourth-generation American contractors. Every employee feels like a member of the family. The office employees work together in an environment intentionally reminiscent of a large family home. And the company's philosophy, its formula for success from the very beginning, has been to treat each customer as they would a family member.

“When I started out, the simple management tool that I learned from my father and grandfather was, ‘If this was your mother’s house, how would you take care of it?’” says Ken Klinger, CEO. “We have instilled that same philosophy in every one of our foremen on every job, and everyone who answers the phone.” Klinger and his wife Debbie recently handed the ownership reins over to daughter Anne and son-in-law Scott Graham. Ken and Debbie Klinger remain highly active in the company.

Serving the entire region, Basement Waterproofing Specialists is headquartered in a refurbished 150-year-old stone farmhouse in Collegeville. Its main office consists of Second Avenue and they have a new addition of a 150-year-old building on River Road. Their Second Avenue location has a spacious fenced-in backyard where the Klingers’ beloved Turkish boz shepherds, Clarabelle and Calvin, can frolic while they work during the day.

“We bought this building for our business because it is our other home,” Klinger explains. “We have created a family environment. We are really lucky because we have the most amazing people who work with us. Everybody here, we really assume is our extended family and we take care of them that way. That’s why we are so successful. That’s why we’ve increased our business tremendously.”

The building’s converted rooms bustle with activity. Smiling, cordial office staff—Steve Johnson, Donna Wardle, Dominic Corrado, Jennifer Armstrong, Sharon Love, Vicki Cipollini, Paul Sumler, Paul Mathewson, Jessie Kanagie, Nichole D’Arconte, Shane Harris, Linda Mullin, Rob Mullin, John Cappelli, Shirelle Watkins, Alyssa Florentino, Justin Weatherill, and Jim Welsh—stay busy with phone calls and managing projects. All of the office staff and all of the production crews out in the field contribute to the company’s success, Klinger says, emphasizing that he and his employees truly identify with their customers and the issues they face, and they are serious about treating each job as if it is for a member of their family.

“What’s interesting is, people call a lot of the times and they are not sure what their problems are,” Klinger says. “They think they know. Any one of our guys will go in and honestly pretend it’s their house. They do a full inspection, inside and outside, and they determine what they feel the customer needs. We don’t try to sell them anything. It’s about determining what they actually need. When you communicate that to a customer, they realize you are not talking at them, you are working with them, and that is really important.”

Through the years, Basement Waterproofing Specialists has accumulated a long list of satisfied customers throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. “We are so grateful to our customers for referring as many customers as they do,” Klinger says.

Basement Waterproofing Specialists distinguishes itself from others in the industry not only in terms of excellent customer service, but also in terms of the superior quality of their work and track record of success, based on their ability to correctly diagnose and correct the specific issue unique to each situation.

Klinger points out that most basement waterproofing companies specialize in just one form of waterproofing, the installation of a basic inside French drain. That will work in many applications, he says. “But if you go 75 miles away and you’re in New Jersey with high sand content, or inversely if you go into the Pocono Mountains or Lancaster County, you’re going to find different environments and conditions.” You may also want to redirect the water away from your home so it never enters your foundation, he explains.

“We have 13 different levels of waterproofing systems, which are customized per a particular job,” Klinger says. “These water management systems can be installed both inside and outside of your home. We also do inside and outside foundation repair whereas most of our residential competition does one type of waterproofing system and foundation repair and it’s always inside.”

Basement Waterproofing Specialists provides an extensive array of services to address virtually any issue related to waterproofing; foundation structural repairs and/or replacement; drainage systems; mold and mildew inspection and remediation; and much more.

“Customers can sense when you really care about their problem,” Klinger adds. “Yes we are there to do a job to make money, but it’s not always about that. In this day of complications, it still comes down to one thing: It’s what’s inside of you. It’s about relationships. What you see is what you get with us. Even down to something small. Our contracts have an American flag on the back and no small print. It’s the way we do business.” **H&H**

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