

The Black and Blue Thumb

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KITCHENS & BATHS

A kitchen or bath renovation can be a major undertaking. Nonetheless, it offers huge dividends: the satisfaction of tailoring your kitchen to your household's specific needs, making it look just the way you want it, and, of



course, boosting the resale value of your home.

Kitchen and bath designs are

two of the most critical components in a renovation project. Most experts agree that a kitchen renovation project will return almost 100% on investment when the property is sold. Surveys by the real estate industry show that a kitchen is one, if not the most, important feature with potential purchasers. Usually, the quality of the kitchen often makes or breaks the sale.

If you decide to take the greener approach to making your space more eco-friendly, consider these tips:

- ◆ Water-saving taps
- ◆ Energy-efficient appliances
- ◆ A solar hot water service
- ◆ Energy-efficient lighting
- ◆ Grey water recycling

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We're on the web!
Sagatovhomes.com

Learn more about kitchen energy efficiency:
www.energystar.gov
www.hannabery.com
www.greenhome.com
www.energyexperts.com

THE BENEFITS OF A RENOVATION

Energy Efficiency Remodeling your kitchen can allow you to make your home more energy efficient. You can choose from many different types and styles of energy efficient appliances. This will help you save money on your energy bills, as well as make your kitchen more visually appealing. Read more below.

Bigger Kitchen If you want to alter your kitchen design, you can make your kitchen bigger. There are many options available that will help you achieve this goal. This includes removing walls near the kitchen to expand the available space and adding on to the outside portion of the house to create extra space for your new kitchen.

Lighter Space One of the many great kitchen remodeling ideas is to lighten up your kitchen. This can change the overall appearance of your home. You can choose lighter colors for your appliances, as well as walls, countertops, and flooring to create this new look.

Increases Value One of the most important benefits of remodeling your kitchen is that it can increase the value of your home. This will be apparent when it is time to sell it.



10 Ways to make your kitchen more resource efficient

1. Install operable windows and skylights. Windows and skylights are the most energy-efficient method of clearing vapors and indoor air toxins from your kitchen. With enough openings, placed for cross and stack ventilation, you can run your exhaust fan only to evacuate the heaviest cooking odors.



2. Use a high-efficiency ceiling fan. A ceiling fan boosts natural ventilation by helping to move air through the space, and it uses less energy and is quieter than an exhaust fan.

3. Evacuate cooking fumes with a high-efficiency, variable-speed exhaust fan. Check the Energy Star website for the most energy-efficient models. The variable-speed option lets you use the lowest effective setting, further reducing your energy demand.



4. Locate work surfaces near windows or skylights. Daylight is the highest quality lighting, and it's free! With work surfaces near windows or skylights, you won't need to use artificial lighting during the day, so you'll save energy. You'll also have views and a connection to the outside.

5. Use high-efficiency compact fluorescent lights. Many people associate fluorescent lights with early technologies that produced bad lighting. But technologies have improved dramatically, and compact fluorescent lighting is about four to five times as efficient as incandescent lighting.



6. Look for Energy Star lighting (fixtures and bulbs) and appliances. Energy-efficient appliances and lighting save you money and save the environment by reducing pollution and greenhouse gases generated by energy production at power plants. Energy Star lighting, for example, uses about 66 percent less energy than standard lighting. Go to <http://www.energystar.gov> to find recommended products.

7. Consider an on-demand hot water pumping system. On-demand hot water pumping systems deliver electrically heated water while waiting for hot water from the heater to reach the faucet. A whole-house recirculating hot water loop has proven inefficient for delivering hot water quickly.



8. If your plumbing fixtures were installed before 1992, replace them. Older fixtures are water hogs, and many low-flow products function as well as their traditional counterparts. Options include hands free automatic rinse faucets, aerator faucets and foot pedal- or knee-controlled faucets that let you easily control water use.



9. "Right-size" your appliances. Huge appliances use more energy and take up more space—you'll build, heat and cool additional square footage to accommodate them. If you don't need the extra capacity, don't buy it.

10. If your refrigerator is more than 10 years old, replace it. Just don't put that old refrigerator in the garage and turn it on—you will only add to your energy bill! Old refrigerators can account for about 15 percent of a home's energy demand; of all household appliances they use the most energy.

Source: www.GreenHomeGuide.com



WHAT'S HOT IN THE KITCHEN



WHAT'S STEAMY IN THE BATH



SOME OF OUR RECENT PROJECTS



- A. Kitchen - New home, Arlington. Energy Star appliances, granite countertops, stainless steel sinks, tile backsplash and floor, FineLine cabinets, under-counter, pendent and recessed lighting
- B. Kitchen - Renovation project, Arlington. Energy Star appliances, granite tops, stainless steel sinks, tile backsplash and floor, Adelphi cabinets, under-counter, pendent and recessed lighting
- C. Master Bath - New home, Arlington. Granite top, under-mount sinks, tile floor, FineLine cabinets, window and solar tube natural lighting.
- D. Powder Room - Renovation project, Arlington. Wall hung vanity, tile floor

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Sagatov Associates, in an effort to help prospective client's design process, is online with a substantial portfolio of over 100 photos of New homes, Additions, Remodeling Projects, and Decks and Porches. With over 20 years of high end experience, Sagatov Associates is one of Northern Virginia's Premier Design-Build firms. We specialize in sophisticated traditional and contemporary Renovations and New Homes, Designer Screened Porches, and Kitchens and Baths. If you demand quality and service, we want to serve your needs.

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HAVE YOU CONSIDERED SELLING YOUR HOME?
OFTEN, THE BEST HOMES FOR OUR PROJECTS ARE THE ONES
THAT ARE NOT ON THE MARKET.
— IF YOU'RE THINKING OF SELLING —
WE'D LOVE TO TALK TO YOU!