

Redefining Style

Dover Home Remodelers

EXTENSIVE RENOVATIONS can be required for homes that have fallen into disrepair. However, the family that bought this well-maintained, 4,867-square-foot home, built in 1999, decided to do a whole-house renovation so the dwelling better reflected their needs and personal aesthetic.

"It's a very busy family household," says Dover Home Remodelers designer Shelley Bujdos, who worked closely with the client. As a result, this remodeling project focused mainly on "flow and functionality" and involved "reconfiguring the space to provide new opportunities," she notes. "The house is very eclectic — it's not contemporary in any way, but it's not overly traditional."

Preserving the continuity of the home's look required choosing materials carefully, since an open floor plan meant that several rooms and features (such as a large, curved staircase) would be visible immediately upon walking into the foyer. A custom-made light fixture hangs in this entryway, emblematic of what Bujdos calls the "sleek, clean" look of the fixtures throughout the home, including curved track lighting hanging from 9-foot and 18-foot ceilings.

Brazilian teak flooring was installed in the main living areas, which also feature custom mantels built around two refinished fireplaces: a wood-burning fireplace in a dedicated hearth room and a two-way, two-story fireplace between the kitchen and great room.

Remodeling the kitchen was the biggest challenge, Bujdos says. Although huge, the room had an abundance of doorways leading to a butler pantry and laundry room, which meant appliances were awkwardly pushed to one side of the room. "Closing off some of the existing doorways created opportunities to extend the new cabinetry and appliances



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NUTS & BOLTS

HOME ADDRESS:
 3028 Waterfall Way,
 Westlake

CONTRACTOR INFORMATION:
 Dover Home
 Remodelers,
 29341 Lorain Road,
 North Olmsted,
 440-777-7555,
doverremodeling.com

PROJECT FOCUS:
 Whole House
 Renovation



throughout the entire space," she says. Decor-wise, Dover installed honed granite countertops, painted and stained custom cabinets and high-end, Sub-Zero and Wolf appliances.

The Dover team also relocated the laundry room to the second floor and revamped the lower-level space into a large mudroom with quartz countertops and pantry-like cupboards to fit the family's active lifestyle. As one of the home's most unique features, the room's cabinets boast interior ventilation, circulating air to help dry the kids' sports equipment.

Additionally, the upstairs master bathroom received a dramatic facelift, courtesy of a luxurious, customized shower with a dry area and wet area. "It's large enough that a door was not needed," Bujdos says, noting that people enter the shower through an arched tile opening with an alcove. His and her walk-in closets with meticulous organizational touches — such as jewelry holders, tie racks and belt holders — round out the customization.

In the end, this whole-house remodel was a matter of defining (and refining) style. "Once the structural changes were designed, the decor was chosen to flow cohesively throughout the home. The blend of design, color and texture create a dramatic ambience the minute you walk through the front door," Bujdos says. — *Annie Zaleski*