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Design Overhaul

Chagrin River Company

IN THE CASE OF THIS PROPERTY, the homeowners were considering moving but instead decided to renovate their current home for better functionality and an updated style. They tapped Mike Staffileno, owner of Chagrin River Company, to open up their kitchen and provide a more comfortable space to entertain and live their day-to-day lives.

Staffileno opened up what was three separate spaces: the kitchen, a dining room and a vestibule area between the family room, hallway and kitchen. He installed a steel beam and took out the various walls. He also took outdoor space that was the existing porch and enclosed it, bringing it into the kitchen.

He moved the kitchen around somewhat to push it right up against the family room and finish off the open concept where the homeowners and their guests could flow easily from one room to another. Staffileno matched the flooring of the rest of the home and installed 2.25-inch oak hardwood floors in the kitchen. The countertops are quartz and the backsplash a glass tile in pearl.

The exterior initially

consisted of a covered porch, and Staffileno's design expanded the footprint of the porch, providing a better eating area outside, a hot tub and a fire pit. The flooring of the porch is 2-inch-thick gray sandstone that was random cut on site. "We also installed a 16-foot wall of glass so when you're looking from the kitchen there's no delineation from the interior to the exterior," Staffileno says.

The renovation was a challenge only in that the home dated back to the 1920s with solid masonry construction. He says they also faced poor workmanship from past remodels that had to be corrected. But the effort was worth it in the end to make the space more comfortable and livable. "The biggest thing is having that 16-foot wall of glass, and having the inside kitchen table next to the outside kitchen table," Staffileno says of the project. "It's connected to the outside. Before, (the homeowner) felt like she was locked into the kitchen."

"Really, it was an objective of making the outside and the inside all one space. It's very much all about flow and family."

—JP

NUTS & BOLTS

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PROJECT FOCUS:
 Kitchen Remodel
 and Exterior Covered
 Porch

