

SUMMER 2023

AT HOME WITH ELM

Kitchen Remodeling, Basement Renovations, Additions & More



Award-Winning Basement Renovation



What started as an unfinished basement on this Woodridge Place home ended up as an award-winning project. This project not only made our clients happy, but also won an Alabama Remodeling Excellence Award and was a Best in Show Qualifier.

Our clients are empty nesters who want to transform their unfinished basement into a place where they can entertain.

They worked with a decorator in other spaces throughout their home, so when it came time to get to work on the basement, they already knew they wanted a modern element instead of the traditional style they were used to.

The stairway leading to the basement has a wrought iron and cable railing tied into the steel posts and beams, giving the space a modern touch. The first thing you'll notice as you enter the basement is a sitting area perfect for entertaining. We decided to do a tray ceiling in that space instead of a flat ceiling so there would be a little more height, making the space feel larger.

The homeowners also really wanted a wine cellar, so to the right of the seating area, you'll see a spectacular steel and glass wall with a wine cellar on the other side showcasing out client's impressive wine collection. We love how the steel ties in with the steel posts used for the stairs.

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Cool & Functional Kitchen Remodeling Ideas

Are you tired of staring at the same old kitchen every day? Do you find yourself daydreaming about a fresh and modern space to cook and entertain in?

Look no further! With these cool and functional remodeling ideas, you can transform your dull kitchen into a stylish and practical haven.

Adding storage space

One of the biggest complaints homeowners have about their kitchens is a lack of storage space. To maximize your storage space, consider adding cabinets or shelves to unused wall space. You can also install pull-out shelves or lazy susans in your existing cabinets to make it easier to access your pots and pans.



Upgrading kitchen appliances

Upgrading your kitchen appliances can make cooking and entertaining easier and more enjoyable. Consider investing in a high-quality stove and oven, a spacious refrigerator, and a quiet dishwasher. You can also add a wine cooler or built-in coffee maker to make your kitchen feel like a luxury retreat.

Choosing the right kitchen flooring

Your kitchen flooring should be both durable and stylish. Consider choosing a material that is easy to clean and can withstand heavy foot traffic. Popular kitchen flooring options include hardwood, tile, and laminate.

Lighting ideas for your kitchen

Good lighting is essential in any kitchen. Proper lighting can make it easier to prep meals, read recipes, and entertain guests. Here are some lighting ideas to consider for your kitchen remodel:

- Pendant lights are a popular choice for kitchen lighting and come in a variety of styles and finishes, making it easy to find one that matches your personal style.



- Under-cabinet lighting provides direct light over your countertop workspace, making it easy for you to focus on your tasks.
- Recessed lighting is a popular choice for kitchen lighting because it provides even, ambient light throughout the space. Recessed lights can be installed in the ceiling or in a soffit above your cabinets.

Creative backsplash design ideas

A backsplash is a great way to add personality and style to your kitchen. A well-designed backsplash can also protect your walls from spills and splatters. Here are some creative backsplash design ideas to consider:

- Subway tile is a classic choice for a kitchen backsplash. It's affordable, easy to install, and comes in a variety of colors and finishes.



- Mosaic tile is a great way to add color and texture to your kitchen backsplash. It's also a great way to create a focal point in your kitchen.
- Patterned tile is a bold choice for a kitchen backsplash and adds visual interest to your space and can be used to create a statement wall in your kitchen.

If you'd like to get started on your own kitchen remodeling project, give us a call. We would be happy to discuss your options, including how you intend to use this space and create something you and your family will love.

Is Summer A Good Time to Remodel?

The answer to this question depends on various factors including the extent of your remodeling project, your personal preferences, and if we're available! Here are some points to consider for this summer or in 2024!

1. Weather: Summer provides ample opportunities for outdoor cooking and socializing. While your kitchen or other family time areas are undergoing renovation, you can make the most of the pleasant weather and grill on your patio or deck. Not only does this help you save money on dining out, but it also allows you to spend more time relaxing outdoors.



If your remodeling involves work that needs to be done outdoors or requires opening up the house to the great outdoors, this can also make summer weather ideal.



2. Schedules: Summer is a very popular time for home remodeling projects and design/remodeling contractors are in high demand. Unless you are already on the schedule, this summer may not be an option, but you can start planning for next summer. You should always engage your remodeling team well in advance and make sure to leave yourself enough time for budget planning, the design process, and all the work that happens before the building stage of the project starts.

3. Potential Disruptions: If you have children who are home from school or if you work from home, managing these additional interruptions may make remodeling during the summer too disruptive to your daily life.

Ultimately, the best time to remodel your home will depend on your unique circumstances, but summer can offer several advantages. Just remember you always need to plan ahead.

Product Review: Kitchen Countertops

When you're remodeling a kitchen, one of the most important choices you'll make is selecting the countertops. The materials, styles and color choices have changed over the years, so this list will show you many of the available options and their characteristic so you can narrow down your selections.

Granite is known for its durability and heat resistance, as well as its natural beauty, but it requires regular sealing to prevent staining.

Marble is a luxurious and elegant option, but it's prone to scratching and etching. It also requires regular sealing.

Quartz is a man-made material that's available in a wide range of colors and patterns and is durable, resists scratches and stains, and doesn't require sealing.

Butcher block countertops are made from wood and can add warmth and texture to a kitchen, but require regular oiling and can be prone to scratches and stains.



Concrete countertops have a modern and industrial look and are available in a wide range of colors and finishes, but like many others on this list, require regular sealing.

With countertops, especially man-made materials like quartz and concrete, there are no limit to the colors you can choose. Bold and dark hues, pastels, neutrals and natural colors are all available.

When choosing a countertop material and color, there are a variety of factors to consider. Your lifestyle, cabinets, lighting and budget are all important factors.

If you're not sure where to start, just give us a call and we'll help you decide!

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Award-Winning Basement Renovation

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On the other side of the basement, there's a partial kitchen, with everything you'd find in a full kitchen except a range. It has plenty of cabinets and shelving for storage and room for seating at the 13-foot island. This space, along with the new half bath, allows our clients to entertain downstairs without having to run upstairs.

The homeowners wanted to go all out and create a space they would enjoy with friends and family. Nothing does that like a luxurious basement retreat.



See More of This Project

Point your phone's camera at this QR code to see a link to our gallery

