HOME REMODELING TRENDS

Budgeting & Planning: What to Expect When Remodeling

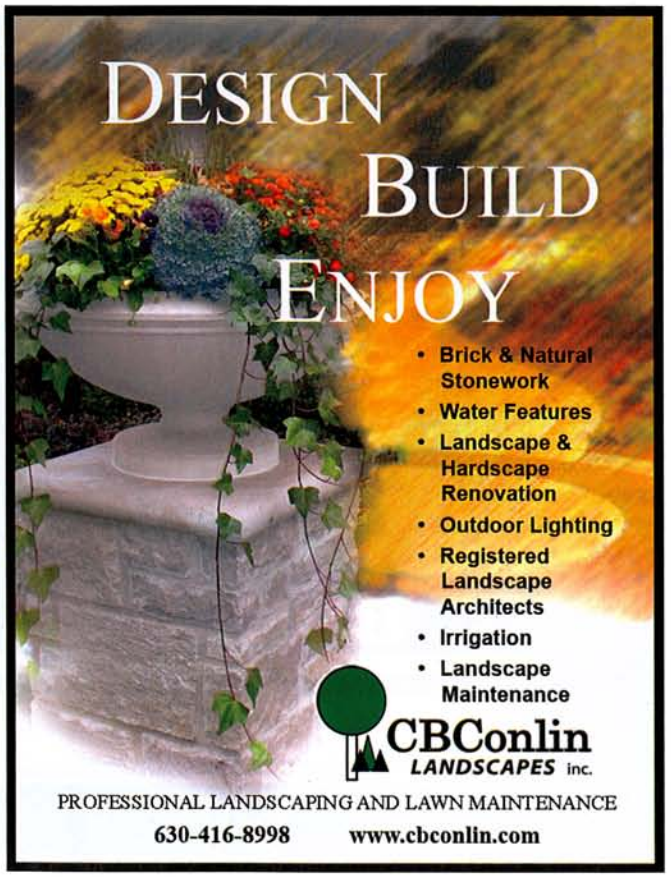
by Jessica Gomes, Casa Bella Design Center

A television morning show states that an average master bathroom remodel costs $7,000, yet a design magazine features a master bathroom that costs $ 60,000. A neighbor spent $100,000 on their kitchen, yet a friend got a quote for $20,000 on the same layout. These contrasting home remodeling figures are quite typical and often cause a sense of confusion in homeowners. Which figures do I trust? What can I expect to spend on my space? Where should I start purchasing items? Proper budgeting and planning can resolve such overwhelming questions. A remodeling project budget will be contingent upon many different contributing factors.

The scope of work is the largest determining factor for budgeting. A simple kitchen remodel may include an appliance upgrade, new countertops, new plumbing fixtures and new lighting. An extensive remodel may include removing walls, adding a window, a brand new cabinet layout including an island, and new flooring throughout. Early research of a current space will help assist in selecting a scope that makes sense. Is the layout efficient? Are the cabinets in good shape? Is the room properly lit? By going through a list such as this, one will find a plan starting to take form.

The design and products selected will greatly affect the budget as well. Whether selecting high-end fixtures for a new bathroom, or middle of the road cabinets for a modest kitchen, one must think of the overall combination price of these products. Running to the nearest home store and purchasing item by item will not achieve a desired budget. Does the layout allow for stock cabinet sizes or does it need custom cabinets? Do the appliances have to be top of the line or can a luxury range be paired with other cost effective appliances? Preplanning the entire design and combination of materials is a must.

Lastly, the project services are something worth investigating. Some homeowners will find they want to be on site daily to oversee the construction in their home. Some homeowners will want nothing to do with the design or the construction. Selecting a company that offers services that match up with customer needs is very important and will determine budgeting. Permitting management, quality tradesmen, qualified designers, and one stop selection centers are offered through companies such as Casa Bella. These services are going to cost more than a do-it-yourself approach, but will be the perfect fit for many homeowners.

Pairing the above information with the following rule of thumb should start consumers on finalizing their ideal budgeting plan for their remodel. A full kitchen remodel will cost on average 10-30% of a home's value. A full bathroom remodel will cost on average 8-20% of the home's value. One must remember to not rely on these figures alone! For more information, Casa Bella will be offering a complimentary design education seminar February 28th from 6:30-7:30. The topic for this seminar will be Project Budgeting. Seating is limited, so please RSVP by February 21st to reserve a spot.

Casa Bella Kitchen and Bath Remodelers is located at 15 W Jefferson Avenue, downtown Naperville. This full-service, one- stop-shop for all of your remodeling needs, offers everything from developing a layout for your space, to product selection and managing the installation. Jessica A. Gomes (pictured) a graduate of the Interior Design program at Illinois State University, has been working at Casa Bella for four years and oversees the company's project design and sales. Jessica works directly with clients to design creative solutions that satisfy their needs. Call (630) 718-1440 for more details or visit the showroom today.