

Should I Stay...or Should I Go?



by **David Stokes**
 Owner
DM STOKES
 HOME RENOVATIONS



Should I stay or should I go? In the spirit of the popular TV program *Love It or List It*, this was the decision that faced Eric & Meena. Like many suburban areas, most of the valued building lots and areas for development have already been built up. Some of the older neighborhoods that were developed have much larger lot sizes than some of today's community-style developments with a mix of apartment-style living and single-family dwellings. The couple had purchased this 1950's ranch-style home with second floor angled ceiling rooms for its central location, lot size, mature trees and overall feel of this older neighborhood development. As time went by, it became apparent that more size was needed. After investigating some initial home renovation proposal costs—to cover all bases—they also looked at the option of moving and building new. In their area, the cost of a comparable building lot and the development of the lot would have been as much, or more than the renovation costs to their home in the neighborhood they already loved.

By way of a referral, Eric and Meena reached out to me, David Stokes, Owner of DM Stokes Home Renovations. After an initial meeting and thorough discussion, I provided a general renovation plan for a second floor bump-up enlarging a bedroom, adding a bathroom, and home office. I also provided building plans for a large addition expanding the

back of the home, increasing the size of the kitchen, adding a powder room and mudroom, and creating a space that is both open and functional.

After carefully listening to Eric and Meena's wants and needs, I provided detailed estimates (no charge for the initial design concept work) along with a fair payment schedule to ensure that all benchmarks are met before payments would be requested. The couple felt comfortable with my proposed approach and shared with me that they especially appreciated my design ideas for their kitchen, bath and room layouts, as well as my understanding of materials and finish products, my knowledge of and experience with the permitting process, and construction processes. (Truth be told, I think they also sensed my passion for what I do.) I was told these were the reasons they selected the DM Stokes team.

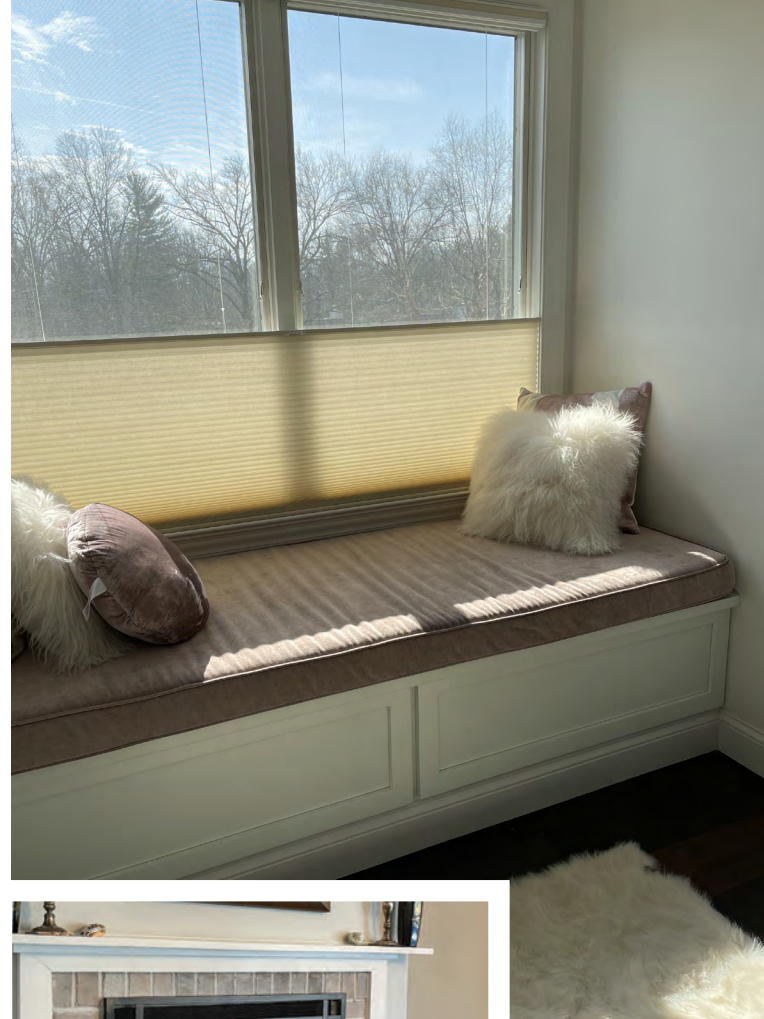
As the founder of DM Stokes Home Renovations, I take great pride in our work and our reputation. We specialize in comprehensive home renovations especially in space planning for kitchen and bath design, and all construction and finishing processes. I am a graduate of the Cabinetmaking program at Thaddeus Stevens Trade School in Lancaster, and have followed my passion for cabinetry providing kitchen and bath renovation services throughout south/central Pennsylvania. We offer a cabinetry line for all price points from the



DM Stokes Home Renovations provides a full range of remodeling services for projects and budgets of all sizes. At DM Stokes Home Renovations, we believe in honesty and integrity while building beautiful relationships around each and every project. We have a strong moral commitment to ensuring that your project is managed professionally and to the best of our ability. Our commitment to quality, budget and schedule is why our clients love us. Call 717-284-2184 for your free consultation and estimate.

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builder-entry level to elite custom cabinetry that will rival any product on the market. Again, we take great pride in our work and completely understand that the project comes first and the ultimate goal is to provide an end product that the owners will love and enjoy for many years.

As seen in the accompanying photos, this project developed into a whole-home renovation. Along with the 2nd floor bump up and the large great-room addition, the master suite and bathroom was remodeled, two guest bathrooms were rede-

signed and renovated, all flooring replaced, and fireplaces reworked and brought into today's stylish appearances. The cabinetry was inspired by today's clean lines and Meena's needs for cooking and storage. The great room's ceiling was designed to follow the clean lines of the kitchen—installing seamless ship-lap boards that were finished in the cabinet shop with a cabinet grade finish to match the cabinetry. The large windows provide an inspiring feel allowing for natural light to be the main source of light during the day. The eat-in kitchen table

and wrap around bench seats were designed to provide a space that tied the great room to the kitchen.

You can learn more about DM Stokes Home Renovations by going to our website www.DMSHR.com or calling 717-284-2184 to schedule a free in-home consultation. Our experience in the renovation industry will be a plus for any customer who is looking for a high quality renovation that will stand the test of time.

R&A

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Cabinets, basements, bathrooms, kitchens, additions, even entire homes—our team does it all. We've designed and renovated homes throughout Central and Southeast PA since 2006—building lifelong customers along the way. With DM Stokes Home Renovations, you invite integrity, expertise and customer satisfaction into your home. Every job begins with owner, David Stokes. Our personal commitment to enhancing your lifestyle—it's why our customers love us.

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