

## NOW YOU SEE IT, NOW YOU DON'T

Article on page 2

*Zero-threshold shower; built-in seat; tile-in handrail; detachable hand shower with flexible hose; Elevance rising wall bath by Kohler; roll-under vanity*

[www.ForestGlenConstruction.com](http://www.ForestGlenConstruction.com)

TELEPHONE: 847-236-0895

FAX: 847-948-1342

## Finding Spaces in Unlikely Places

If you are like most homeowners today, you never seem to have enough storage or work space for all of your activities. Sometimes solving that problem is simply a matter of getting rid of items you no longer use. But other times it indicates you are not maximizing the space you have. If you take a few moments to walk through your home with this in mind, you may discover empty space available in places you never noticed before: corner areas that are underutilized, closets with no more than a simple hanging rod, dining rooms you never use.

*...continued on page 4*



Photo: Courtesy of Aristokraft ([www.aristokraft.com](http://www.aristokraft.com))



## Plan Ahead for the Holidays

It may still be warm outside, but that doesn't mean you can't start planning for the holidays. They'll be here before you know it! And, if you're planning any big family get-togethers in November or December, you may want to start thinking about the projects you need to get done around the house before the festivities begin.

September and October are great months to tackle those updates that will make your home more spacious, more organized, or more beautiful. Whether you're considering something as big as a remodel of your basement (to make room for all those kids to play, while the adults stay safely upstairs, away from the chaos), or a simple conversion of your den into a guest bedroom (so your in-laws have a cozy place to stay over the holidays), now is the time to get started. It takes a little time to secure permits, decide on finishes, fixtures, and flooring, so the Forest Glen Construction team is able to execute your project efficiently and cost effectively.

These next couple of months are also some of the best times to take care of any exterior work on your house. New siding, roofing, or windows can improve your home's curb appeal, while also making it more energy efficient as we brace for the winter ahead.

Whatever projects you need done around the house this fall, let **Forest Glen Construction** help bring them to life!

# NOW YOU SEE IT, | NOW YOU DON'T



Photo: Courtesy of Moen (www.moen.com)

The basic purpose of Universal Design (UD) is to make our living spaces both *beautiful* and *easy to use* for people of all ages and abilities. You may be surprised to learn that most homeowners currently incorporate UD features into their new and remodeled bathrooms, sometimes without realizing it.

For example, not long ago it was unheard of in this country to have **lever door handles** instead of door knobs. Light switches were always the toggle variety,

rather than **rocker-style** switches or the new **touch pad** models. Showers rarely had **seats**, and a **detachable handheld shower with a flexible hose** was a novelty. Now these amenities—all on the list of UD recommendations—are so commonplace, they have become transparent. Once rejected as “too institutional,” today you hardly notice their presence.

New ideas and solutions for UD continue to evolve. The term “livable design” has

been coined to help homeowners realize the positive aspects of a home that is safe and healthy, meeting their ever-changing needs across a lifetime. You may be part of a multi-generational family or a member of the Boomer generation that is reaching 65. Would you not prefer a bathroom where you and your loved ones can shower easily, without concern about falling? **Zero-threshold, doorless showers** offer simple access for small children, as well as for those who are maneuvering a wheelchair. Whether a person is 5 years or 85, a grab bar in the bathroom is a great benefit! Attractive **grab bars** that function as towel bars or as toilet roll holders are available today from a variety of manufacturers. These are all examples of UD amenities that are rapidly going mainstream.

Here are some additional UD features to consider for your beautiful bathroom:

- ▶ **The entry door should be 34" to 36" wide.**
- ▶ **A multiple-height, roll-under vanity will accommodate everyone, whether standing or seated.**
- ▶ **Install a single lever sink faucet with an anti-scald valve set at 120 degrees maximum.**
- ▶ **Choose a comfort-height toilet.**
- ▶ **Include a 24" inch minimum full-length seated drying space alongside the bathtub.**
- ▶ **Select slip-resistant flooring, such as matt glazed tile, cork or commercial grade no-wax sheet vinyl.**
- ▶ **Provide good lighting for the shower and vanity area, including natural light whenever possible.**
- ▶ **Install a ventilation system that either senses humidity or operates continuously at a low level.**



Photo: Courtesy of Moen (www.moen.com)

Grab bar with paper holder



Photo: Courtesy of Moen (www.moen.com)

Grab bar with corner shelf



Photo: Courtesy of HealthCraft (www.healthcraftproducts.com)

ADA compliant fold-up shower seat



Photo: Courtesy of Smartrooms (www.smartrooms.com)



Photo: Courtesy of Plain & Fancy Custom Cabinetry (www.plainandfancycabinets.com)

Plain & Fancy's new enamel paint colors

# SHINY CLEAN

Are you dreaming of a kitchen makeover? One of the most important decisions you will make is which cabinets to buy. More than any other feature, your cabinets influence the look of your kitchen, not to mention the ease and convenience of working and entertaining in that space. Familiarizing yourself with these latest cabinet trends will help you make the selection that is perfect for you and your family.

1. Clean design; traditional style is not as elaborate as it was previously
2. Flat doors or simple, raised panels; flush doors or frameless cabinetry
3. A mix of open shelving and cabinets on the wall, or open shelving only
4. Drawers and pull-outs in floor cabinets, rather than doors
5. Soft-close drawers, touch to open
6. Customized drawer interiors, adjustable to optimize organization
7. LED lighting in drawers, automatic activation when drawers are opened

8. Lighting available in different color tones
9. Painted cabinet finishes in a neutral palette of grays and browns, or classic white
10. Metallic and high-shine finishes are the trend right now
11. Dressy crystal knobs; shimmer and sparkle is big
12. Shiny polished chrome; polished nickel
13. Door insets of clear glass or antique mirrors
14. Rift-cut oak is very popular; walnut is coming in; cherry and maple are standard

## FIRST TIME AROUND

TOTO unveiled 1G, its new one gallon per flush (gpf) ultra high-efficiency (UHET) gravity-fed toilet, at the Kitchen and Bath Industry Show this year.

Other UHET toilets, such as the Niagara Stealth, use only 0.8 gpf, but they utilize pressurized air from the tank-filling process to produce the flush. Unfortunately, since so little water is used for the flush, one issue with these toilets has been that solids are not always carried away the desired distance.

TOTO claims its double cyclone flushing system creates a powerful flushing action, achieving such exceptional rim and bowl cleansing that it clears the 1G's bowl the first time around. In addition, the 1G's bowl and rim are coated with SanaGloss, TOTO's high-tech glaze that seals the porcelain and creates a super-slippery, non-porous surface that repels matter and bacteria.

The 1G is a comfort-height toilet that is ADA-compliant.



Photo: Courtesy of TOTO (www.totousa.com)

Plan Ahead for the Holidays

Finding Spaces

Now You See It,  
Now You Don't

Shiny Clean



Forest Glen Construction Co. Inc.  
2639 Forest Glen Trail  
Riverwoods, IL 60015

Tel: 847-236-0895  
Fax: 847-948-1342

Home Additions, Custom Homes, Kitchen Remodeling

[www.ForestGlenConstruction.com](http://www.ForestGlenConstruction.com)

## Finding Spaces in Unlikely Places

*...continued from page 1*

Consider the space under your open stairway. Through the years, has it accumulated an assortment of items that have nowhere else to go? An attractive and functional arrangement of cabinetry and open shelving can transform that area into valuable storage for those same items, tucking them out of sight until needed. Or perhaps it would better suit your needs to create a cozy reading nook or a home office in that space. Whatever you decide, make sure you install appropriate lighting for the task at hand.

Many homes have a two-story family room that boasts a dramatic vaulted ceiling. In addition to the upstairs bedrooms, these homes often have a second story loft that opens to the family room below. If your home includes this style of loft, you may be overlooking the perfect spot for your hobby/crafts center. For one thing, during the daytime these spaces are typically bathed in sunlight from the two-story windows in the family room, helping provide illumination for your scrapbooking



Photo: Courtesy of Decorá (www.decoracabinets.com)

or sewing. A second advantage is that you will have a direct line-of-sight to the public areas of your home, while your hobby/crafts center remains hidden from view. Be sure to design workspace at varying heights, to accommodate different tasks.

Where can you create a special activity area for the young children in your family? You want them to be under your watchful supervision, of course. They should be free to have fun with play dough and finger paint, and there must be a storage area for all their supplies. Consider building a special kid's space along one wall in your kitchen/great room area. Include cubbies and shelves and provide a play table as well—all at child-height. Include a sink nearby for easy cleanup. These items, as well as the flooring underneath, should be durable, water-and-stain resistant and easy-maintenance.



Photo: Courtesy of Quality Cabinets (www.qualitycabinets.com)