

Selecting the Home Design Team

By Benjamin Morey

In this second installment on home remodeling we will look at the three primary methods of taking the list of needs and wants that we have created, the pictures we have put together of our ideas and doing something with them.

Draft Person: This individual usually works independently and creates plans in CAD format or hand-drawn plans. There is no state license requirements or insurance needed to work in this manner. The design part of their skill level can vary greatly depending on their ability and experience. This person is usually found via “word of mouth” and charges by the job or per hour. He or she will be directed by the client as to the scope of the project. The construction budget is not part of this person’s responsibility. Interior design coordination is normally not included. This is a good option for an owner/builder situation.

Architect: This can be an individual or a team approach, all being highly skilled and trained in design and structural requirements. If licensed by the state they can stamp plans for building department submittal and approval. They can take ideas, pictures, needs, wants, and create plans that put all of these things together. Sometimes they also handle interior design coordination. Budget may be discussed, but that is not their total responsibility. Their primary focus is to create — on paper or model — the vision that takes the client’s ideas and turns them into understandable and buildable plans. These are then used to get

quotes from building contractors for completion of the project.

Design/Build: This is always a team approach with architectural design, interior design, structural, and budget parameters under one company’s responsibility. The communication from client to design to construction, construction cost, project scope, material selections and details are handled with one team.



Each method of design can work with any project. Quality of design, budget establishment and communication are all things that must be considered before selecting the design method that you feel most comfortable with.

For a Design/Build approach, call Morey Construction at (562) 425-1321, Ext. 55, for additional information. Your first consultation is at no cost.

Visit www.moreyconstruction.org or www.kitchenbathfactory.net for additional details. Next: “The Design Process.”