



On the Level From Your Full Service Remodeling Contractor

Thank You!

We, at Integrity Home Projects want to *thank you*, our customers, for your business. As always, it is our goal to provide superior service and work in all our remodeling projects for you. We appreciate your business and want to remind you of our Referral Reward Program to encourage you to pass along the Integrity Home Projects name to friends and family that need top quality remodeling for their home.

You can earn a **\$100 gift card** when you pass out our referral cards. When your friend or family signs a contact with a referral card that has your name, we'll send you a \$100 gift card. It's that easy. You'll find three referral cards along with this newsletter to hand out to all to people you know. Call us if you need more!

Thanks again for your business!



Get "On the Level" Online

Want to share this remodeling information with your friends? Lost your copy of the IHP newsletter? Get a new copy in just minutes. Go to the IHP website: www.ihpbuilders.com, click on the Newsletter button and download a copy. It's that quick and easy!

Winter Projects: Kitchens, Baths, Wet Bars

Winter is the perfect time for that interior remodeling project. Our custom cabinet and countertops combined with our 3D CAD design capabilities can help you bring your dream project to reality.

Lower Level Finishing – Plumbing Considerations

This is the fifth in a series of articles on lower level finishing. Lower level finishing adds usable square footage to your home while increasing its value. There are many things to consider when planning your project to make your dreams a reality. If your lower level is finished, we encourage you to pass the newsletter on to a friend or relative who may find it helpful.

Lower Level Water Works

Lower level finishing that involves plumbing is more than choosing vanity and shower faucet styles, there are many things to consider. Lower levels can present many hurdles but also improvement opportunities on the plumbing front.

Plumbing Access Locations

As you look around an unfinished basement, you will see pipes, wires and sheet metal in the ceiling for the home's utilities. To maintain proper plumbing code compliance and functionality, shut-off valves and clean out fittings must remain accessible after finishing. This can be challenging due to the fact that, in many cases, the location of these features was not optimized when the home was built. Clean

out plugs in the floors or walls must be dealt with by implementing decorative cover plates, integrating the features into cabinetry or creating cutout access points in the flooring. Outside water faucet shut off valves in the ceiling are common and can be managed by installing access panels or possibly by moving valves to an unfinished storage room or utility room. Moving plumbing lines, fittings and valves involves additional costs, so the aesthetic improvements should be balanced with budget considerations.



Auxiliary and Replacement Equipment

Back-up sump pumps, water heaters, reverse osmosis water treatment systems, water softeners and laundry rearrangement are common things to consider in the design phase. A history of wet basement issues indicates a need for back-up sump pump equipment. The latest technologies require no battery for the back-up pump. The pump motor is water powered and runs on city

Remodeling Tips

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Bergstrom Plumbing ∞

Experienced Problem Solver

Jerry Bergstrom of Bergstrom Plumbing has been working in the plumbing industry since 1991, and has been working with Dan and Brian at Integrity Home Projects for several years as their plumbing sub-contractor. Based out of Zimmerman, MN, Jerry started Bergstrom Plumbing in 2000 offering high quality work and service.

Bergstrom Plumbing supports Integrity Home Projects with the ability to solve difficult situations with dedication to getting the project completed correctly the first time with professionalism and with quality work, not a quick fix. "I take pride in my work and want to give customers the best service possible." says Jerry Bergstrom.

Master Plumber

As part of Jerry's commitment to top quality plumbing needs and services, he is a qualified Master Plumber. He is also certified in Backflow Prevention which includes RPZ testing. Jerry is continually learning about

new technologies and processes to better his craft to provide the best products possible.

"The expertise and knowledge Jerry offers is a huge benefit for problem solving and troubleshooting our customer's plumbing needs", says Brian of IHP.

Complete Plumbing Services

Integrity Home Projects can count on Jerry for a complete source of all plumbing needs for a home. With remodeling projects including new bathrooms, wet bar additions, kitchen remodeling and other projects, Jerry's knowledge and skills get the job done right and according to the customer's expectation.

With new water systems desired in homes, Integrity Home Projects and Bergstrom



Plumbing's expertise are needed for popular drinking water systems, Reverse Osmosis systems and iron filtration. The growing demand for in-flooring heating requires the knowledge and quality craftsmanship both companies provide every day to clients.

Customer-focused Philosophy

Bergstrom Plumbing and IHP have a complimentary partnership focused on quality work and service for their customers while taking care of all the details. Their remodeling projects and customers are top priority and they are committed to providing the best craftsmanship and quality for every home.

Remodeling Tips continued from front

water, which flows indefinitely when the power is out. No batteries to replace, no battery acid to deal with and no dead battery resulting in a flooded basement.

If your softener or water heating equipment is older and inefficient, replacement may be due. If you do not have a water treatment system, now may be the time to incorporate filtration into your drinking water and ice making system. We will have a plumber on site so there is no better time to take care of your plumbing upgrades and replacements.

Plumbing Budget Considerations

Faucet styles and finishes can be one of the biggest impacts on the price of lower level finishing project. The standard chrome finished faucets can easily triple in price when a brushed nickel or oil rubbed bronze finish is selected. In addition, designer label, wide-spread, high arc and tall faucets can significantly drive the price of your project. The shower/tub design and selection can also significantly impact the budget. The selections range from a basic gel-coat



fiberglass surround on the low end to a tile or stone surround with multi-head body wash or steam system on the high-end. The frequency of use and purpose of the bath must be taken into account when designing the space, its features and fixtures.

Plumbing Styles and Selections

The best place to begin when determining what you would like to see in your lower level bath or bar is gathering photos and ideas from magazines, idea books, showrooms and home previews around the area. We utilize the Ferguson Plumbing Kitchen and Bath Showrooms to assist in the selection process. There are an endless selection of brands, styles and finishes to choose from. If you have a basic idea of the styles and finishes you prefer, our expert staff can work with you to select brands and fixtures that best fit your taste and budget.

In-Floor Heat

Basements tend to have a cool, damp feeling. One of the main causes is a concrete floor that is a constant 47 to 50 degrees. In many cases we cover the floor with an antimicrobial pad and carpet. This helps reduce

the risk of mildew and mold while providing a thermal barrier between your bare feet and the cold concrete. There is



an option for the ultimate in warm feet in your lower level. Electric heat cables are one option for in-floor heating. This is more suited to smaller areas, such as bathrooms. With a small, efficient boiler unit, we can install a water based in-floor heat system in your basement floor, embedding the tubing in an underlayment system. This raises your floor over an inch, making it impractical in some situations. These systems can be zone controlled to maintain optimum comfort and efficiency.

Let Us Help

From showers to frost-free outdoor faucets to in-floor heat, we have the expertise to help you make the best selections for the design of your home while keeping your budget in mind.

Give us a call at 763-286-7429. We are here to help you with your project.

www.ihpbuilders.com.