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spaces

NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS
FEBRUARY/MARCH 2020

BEFORE & AFTER

COVER STORY

Major home remodel
in Eden Prairie
pleases everyone

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- * Childhood-friendly lifestyle is the priority for these Prior Lake homeowners
- * Award-winning kitchen remodel

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A major remodel of an Eden Prairie home pleases everyone

BY MOLLY GUTHREY

PHOTOS BY SHULTZ
PHOTO & DESIGN

When their family was growing in the 1990s, David and Nancy Frischmon decided it was time to move to the suburbs.

“We sold our house in South Minneapolis right away,” says Nancy Frischmon. “It was a fantastic house.”

About their new house in Eden Prairie, though ...

Mama wasn't happy.

“On the day we moved in, I started crying,” Frischmon recalls.

Why?

In a way, it was a case of nesting gone wrong.



AFTER

“I was pregnant with our third child at the time,” she says. “We built the house, but we went into it blindly.”

Since they couldn’t easily “return” or “exchange” a house, the Frischmons made the best of everything from an awkward layout to the wrong cabinets.

But after about 20 years — and two more kids — the Frischmons decided it was time for another change.

“We got to the point where we thought, ‘Should we move now? Should we remodel?’” she recalls.

This time, the Frischmons hesitated at the thought of moving. Because they didn’t dislike everything about this house that — despite its flaws — had become home.

To avoid all the hassles of starting over again, the Frischmons decided to stay and



BEFORE

redo their own home.

NEW SPACES FOR A NEW SPACE

A couple of years ago, the family found inspiration for an update with the help of New Spaces.

“They attended one of our Trends and Spends seminars,” says Jennifer McClellan, a vice president and a home advisor at the Burnsville-based remodeling firm. “The semi-

nars are free monthly events where we talk about remodeling trends and what they cost.”

The next phase was a free follow-up consultation.

“They came in and looked at our home, the furnishings and decorating, to get a sense of our style,” Frischmon says. “That was really helpful.”

At first, the Frischmons were focused on only remodeling their kitchen; however, it became clear that there were other issues on the main floor that needed addressing to make the kitchen fully functional.

“The kitchen was very narrow,” Frischmon says. “And we literally never used half of the main floor: We had a living room and dining room that were cut off — we’d use the dining room for Thanksgiving dinner, but that was about it.”



AFTER

AN OPENING WELCOME

The kitchen remodel turned into a main floor remodel, which was completed earlier this year. Walking into the home is a much different experience now, starting with the front entrance.

The staircase off the entryway is a good example of how an update doesn't always mean a gut job. The staircase's newel posts — previously a maple that had a dated peachy-orange patina — were gel-stained a dark hue and the wooden balusters were replaced by wrought iron. The stairs themselves are also dark now, but edged in white and covered in a patterned gray carpet.

"I love my staircase now," Frischmon says.

From the entryway, an open dining area welcomes visitors on one side of the staircase and an open family room sits on the other side. At the back of the main floor is the new kitchen, which is no longer obscured by a wall.



BEFORE

"The house always felt dark before," Frischmon says. "The light just flows with the wall gone."

There's also other lighting in place to assist Mother Nature, including two chandeliers in the dining room.

"Even the light fixtures themselves feel airy and light," Frischmon says.

"The lighting is one of my favorite parts of this remodel," New Spaces designer Jayme Lennon says. "Nancy and I went through a lot of choices to get it right."

NOKOMIS HICKORY FLOORING

Look down for Lennon's other favorite part of this re-do.

Previously, the main floor included both carpet and a wood-style laminate. Now, however, the different spaces are united by one type of flooring — a matte wirebrushed hickory — "Nokomis hickory" from Musolf's Wood Flooring — that is a favorite of both Frischmon and Lennon.

Hickory is a naturally durable choice — good for this family with all of its foot traffic, plus two dogs. The wirebrushing, which is a type of distressing, makes the hickory hold up even better to the dirt, nicks and scratches of family life.