



PHOTOS BY VERN LUTHEKE

By Sean Coker

Teamwork allows a group to accomplish something greater than that of an individual. Jeff Metke has taken this axiom and turned it into a business model.

Metke Remodeling and Woodworking has earned a reputation synonymous with quality. In addition to its craftsmanship, this Lake Oswego company credits its unique team approach for the success of each project.

"We bring together the appropriate team for each remodeling project, pairing our clients' design needs, style and personality with the right experts," explains Metke. "We have cultivated a pool of very talented professionals who we rely on for design expertise."

From architects to lighting experts and kitchen designers to landscape architects, Metke assembles a custom team for every client. In addition, a dedicated Metke project manager serves as the point-person for client contact and manages the process from beginning to end.



The first part of the remodeling process is to determine the scope of the project. Do you want a kitchen facelift or do you want to add another room?

Once the project parameters are identified and a budget is determined, Metke provides clients with recommendations for appropriate architects and designers. It is important for clients to interview these professionals to ensure that their design style and personalities align.

Lake Oswego resident Molly Walton is currently undergoing a remodel. "We wanted a new kitchen and a rec-room for the kids and found it was more reasonable to remodel than move," she explains. "Besides, we already love our neighborhood."

"I really appreciate the group effort and the chance to have interviewed different designers. While a lot of it is personality, it was also nice to find people with similar styles who shared our vision," said Walton. "Metke's team concept has allowed us to design the home we've always wanted."

Walton chose Ed Spencer of Endpoint Design to draw up the architectural designs for the addition and Sandy Hayes of Hayes Design to handle the interior details. Hayes, also a certified expert in kitchen design, helped Walton make material decisions from countertops and cabinets to backsplash tile, paint color and lighting fixtures.

"It's my responsibility to educate clients, making them aware of the variety of design and material options and guiding them toward a final decision," explains Hayes.

After style and materials are chosen, Metke can further quantify the price of the proj-



METKE REMODELING & WOODWORKING

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-Molly Walton, current Metke customer

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ect. Calculating the cost of the upgrade with specific materials in mind ensures customers don't fall in love with an affordable remodel and that there are no surprises down the road. Once the team agrees on a final design plan, contracts are drawn up, permits are applied for and construction begins.

"Every remodel is unique and we believe that relying on outside design professionals ultimately leads to increased customer satisfaction," Metke concludes. "When the job is done and the customer shuts the front door behind us, I want them to be elated with the choices they've made."

ABOVE: Jeff Metke, second from left, discusses a plan with design colleague Simon Tomkinson, Ed Spencer, Keith Abel, Tina Barclay, and Julia Wood.

LEFT: Metke goes over his vision with a team of designers.

RIGHT: Jeff Metke



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